

No 61,100

Mubarak will go to Israel

President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt said in Cairo that he would visit Israel for the first time in February after a trip to the United States. In Beirut, the Greenpeace campaigner began to break down after gun battles through the night between militias loyal to Iran and those who support Iraq.

£100,000 gift for transplants

A gift of £100,000 by Mr John James, the millionaire philanthropist, will enable Westminster Hospital to save the lives of 15 children needing heart transplants next year. The gift will bring the number of operations up to 40. Page 2

Reagan steps up security

President Reagan has ordered Secret Service protection for his three top White House aides as intelligence and FBI agents searched the country for a five-man Libyan assassination squad which is reported to have entered the United States. Page 4

Haig pledge on Central America

Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, has pledged to prevent any Central American country from becoming a platform for terror and war and offered a programme of economic assistance. Page 4

Housebuilding improves

Private sector housing starts are likely to exceed the forecasts made half way through this year despite the recession and high interest rates. Housebuilders now forecast about 118,000 starts by the end of the year compared with 98,000 last year, the worst figure since 1953. Page 17

EEC may block aid to Turkey

The European Commission has decided to recommend blocking an EEC aid package to Turkey in protest at the imprisonment of Mr Bulent Ecevit, the former Prime Minister. Page 4

Homes challenge to Heseltine

Norwich City Council is to ask the High Court to stop the Department of the Environment taking over its housing stock to speed sales to tenants. It is challenging the constitutional validity of the move. Page 2

Arts welcome grants rise

The Arts Council, museums and galleries received the government announcement of an 8 per cent increase in grants for the arts with relief. As many had expected the grants to be cut. Page 3

45 die in panic inside tower

Forty-five people died during a panic when power failed inside the Qutub Minar tower, one of India's great monuments on the outskirts of Delhi. Many of the dead and injured were school children. Page 5

Footmen jailed

Two royal footmen who stole uniforms and mink equipment to follow their hobby of caving and stored some of their booty at Buckingham Palace were sent to prison at Gloucester Crown Court. Page 3

Solidarity threat

Solidarity has threatened the Polish Government with a national strike if a state of emergency is declared. Page 5

Willis in form

England's Bob Willis found his best form when he took four wickets for 35 runs against India's South Zone at Hyderabad. The home side reached 247 for nine at the close. Page 22

Leader page 7
Letters: On Church commission, from the Right Rev J. R. Moorman and the Right Rev R. Knapp-Fisher; SDP from the Rev P. Rowntree Clifford, and others.
Leading articles: Turkey, museums, family finance. Features, page 8
Labour's make-believe world, by Raymond Fletcher, MP; Paul Tuerouk kicks the smoking habit; how stands the clock? Results of the charity Christmas card competition, page 15

Home News	2, 3	Religion	8
Overseas	4, 5	Sale Rovers	8
Arts	11	Sat Review	9-15
Bridge	12	Science	12
Business	17-21	Services	16
Court	22	Chess	16
Cricket	23	Sport	22, 23
Crossword	26	TV & Radio	25
Events	28	Theatres	28
Obituary	3	Travel	16
Parliament	2	25 Years Ago	8
		Universities	3
		Weather	26

Countdown to Christmas, pages 14 and 15

Sakharov and wife taken to hospital by force

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, Dec 4

The Soviet authorities have forcibly removed Dr Andrei Sakharov, the Nobel Peace Prize winner, to hospital and are giving them medical assistance. A Soviet newspaper announced today that the couple had been on hunger strike for 13 days in an attempt to persuade the authorities to grant an exit visa to Miss Liza Alexeyeva, the fiancée of Dr Sakharov.

The report suggests that the Sakharovs, whose action has evoked protests and appeals to Moscow by statesmen in Europe and America, will be force fed. The paper said they were being treated to prevent any complications in the state of their health.

Dr Sakharov, a Nobel Peace Prize winner, was exiled to Gorky, 250 miles east of Moscow, in January 1980. He and his wife Yelena, who uses the surname Bonner, began their strike on November 22 and took only minimal nourishment. A telegram to Miss Alexeyeva in Moscow on Wednesday said they were holding out and in good spirits but friends of the family have expressed fears for the life of Dr Sakharov, who is 60 and suffers from a heart condition.

Investia today described the hunger strike as a trick, and suggested the Russians will not allow Miss Alexeyeva, who is 26, to join Mr Sakharov. Mr Alexei Semenov, Yelena Bonner's son by a former marriage in the United States because her disabled parents have lodged an official objection. Under Soviet law an emigrant has to have the written consent of close relatives before being granted an exit visa.

Miss Alexeyeva this evening said her parents, whom she visited recently, had not sought a court order preventing the Sakharovs seeing her, as Justice also reported. The paper said Miss Alexeyeva's father had sent a letter to the Soviet Government saying: "Our daughter is being intensively brainwashed in an anti-Soviet spirit by Sakharov, Bonner and company with the aim of forcing her to leave the Soviet Union... what means... what sacrifice... I request and implore you to take measures to protect my family."

Miss Alexeyeva was married by proxy to Mr Semenov, a student at Brandeis University, in June but the Russians have not recognized the marriage. The paper called Dr Sakharov's actions a "fresh provocation... calculated to attract the attention of the West to Sakharov's and Soviet views and play up forces."



Dr Sakharov and his wife, whose hunger strike has brought protests to Moscow by European and American statesmen.

Cloze executors accused of cunning legal ploy

By Tony Sauntings

A "cunningly planned and carefully arranged" legal strategy had been devised in an attempt to avoid paying millions of pounds in tax on the estate of the late Sir Charles Cloze, Mr Justice Ewbank said in the High Court yesterday.

Sir Charles, the financier, died in 1979 leaving an estimated £60m in holdings in England and Monaco. The judge said the British portion of the estate was probably worth £30m to £40m, but by a stroke of the pen "much of that had found its way to the tax-haven of Jersey."

The judge upheld the appointment of the Official Solicitor to administer the estate, passing over Mr Nathan Moyahos of France and Mr Joseph Kasierer of Israel, the executors named by Sir Charles in his will. His decision, he said, took account of the Inland Revenue's "lack of confidence" in the conduct of the executors to date.

Protests at close vote to end BL strike

From Clifford Webb, Midland Industrial, Birmingham

A chaotic mass meeting of workers on strike at BL's Longbridge car plant yesterday voted by a majority of 46 to end the four-week long dispute over tea breaks and return to work on Monday.

The groups of workers claimed that the meeting had been so bitterly divided that another would probably take place on Monday to reverse the decision.

Voting was so close that it had proved impossible to decide the result by a show of hands and two avenues of shop stewards had to be formed so that workers could be counted as they filed through, like a House of Commons division is counted.

The result was greeted with a roar of protest. Track workers in particular shouted that the vote had been swung by women upholsterers who had been on strike for only three days.

"It was a near riot with people screaming at each other and threatening God knows what," said one elderly worker.

The peace formula agreed after all-night negotiations contained major concessions by both sides. Management went halfway to meet the union's demand that it should drop plans to reduce daily relaxation time from 52 to 40 minutes for assembly track workers. It will now be 46 minutes.

In return the unions will accept some increased track speeds, readjustment of manning, an increase in the working week for night shift workers from 38 to 39 hours and the full 12 minutes reduction in break time for the 7,000 employees not directly connected with the assembly tracks.

It was the extra hour for night shift workers which caused the most discord. For nearly two hours the building housing the meeting, echoed with shouts as speakers were heckled and booed.

The Provisional IRA detector believed to have given the Royal Ulster Constabulary information on which they have based arrests of Belfast republicans, and which led to the Irish police discovering an IRA training camp, was named by the republicans yesterday.

An Phoblacht, the weekly newspaper of Provisional Sinn Féin, said he is Dr Christopher Black, aged 29, from the Ardoyne district of Belfast. Mr Black is already referred to as "superior" among his former colleagues - "out" is the Belfast synonym for the English Branch detectives identifying suspects arrested in the raids.

It blamed him particularly for giving the information which led to the Irish police raiding a Provisional IRA training camp last weekend on a remote, tree-lined island off Donegal.

Mr Black was released from prison about a year ago after serving a five-year term.

He rejoined the republican movement on release but on being arrested some weeks ago was blackmailed by the RUC into becoming an informer in return for immunity from prosecution.

An Phoblacht's front page article alleged the existence of the informer was admitted by republican sources last weekend after a series of police and army raids in north and west Belfast in which more than 30 people were arrested. The raids focused particularly upon the Ardoyne. Yesterday the house Mr Black occupied there with his wife and four children was deserted.

An Phoblacht said that Mr Black toured the cells at the RUC's interrogation centre at Castlereagh with Special Branch detectives identifying suspects arrested in the raids.



Mrs Margaret Thatcher with a damp clown at the unveiling of a drinking fountain in Hyde Park to commemorate the 1979 Great Children's Party. Later, saying: "Don't stand there and get cold," she led children in physical jerks.

Informer who led police to IRA camp named by republicans

From Our Correspondent, Belfast

The Irish police believe a terrorist squad in training fled only minutes before they arrived on the island.

The republicans believe that Mr Black is being held under police protection in the North. "England, where his wife and children have been removed by the RUC to save them from possible reprisals."

President Reagan has told the Irish Government that a lasting solution to the Northern Ireland problem "can only be found in a process of reconciliation between the two Irish political traditions and between Britain and Ireland" (our Dublin Correspondent writes).

The message came in a letter delivered to the Irish Government yesterday by Mr William Clark, the United States Deputy Secretary of State, the most senior official from the Reagan administration to visit Dublin.

Jobless levels soaring in US and Germany

By Bailey Morris and Nicholas Cole

Unemployment is moving sharply higher in both the United States and West Germany. The number of jobless Americans continued to climb last month to a peak of 8.4 per cent of the workforce.

The highest unemployment figures since the 1974-75 recession, the United States Labour Department reported.

While the price you have to pay for bringing down inflation - Mr Larry Speakes, deputy press secretary to President Reagan, said.

In West Germany, unemployment reached its highest November level for 29 years. The number of unemployed was 1.49 million, or 6.4 per cent of the workforce.

The White House said yesterday the climb in unemployment from 8 per cent in October to 8.4 per cent last month was not surprising.

Bermondsey man speaks out

'I have been tried and executed'

By Anthony Bevis and Richard Ford

Mr Michael Foot is expected to insist on the eventual disbandment of Bermondsey's left-wing Labour party if they refuse to replace their parliamentary candidate, Mr Peter Tatchell.

It was emphasized by many Labour MPs last night that whatever the merits of the case, the Labour leader could hardly retreat from his public repudiation of Mr Tatchell in the Commons on Thursday 29.

But Mr Tatchell, aged 29, said yesterday he had been tried and executed without the opportunity of stating his case. These MPs, they have never met me, they do not know my policies and they have given me no opportunity to speak in my own defence.

He denied that the Bermondsey party had been infiltrated by the far left and said that by extra-parliamentary activity - the phrase which prompted the Commons repudiation - he meant no more than the mass lobbying of Parliament.

If Mr Foot's confrontation with Bermondsey goes ahead it could take months, beginning with a meeting of the Labour executive's organization committee on Monday, and passing through to the full executive at the end of this month, before negotiations start with the local party executive.

But the Labour right is concerned that Mr Foot plans to turn Mr Tatchell into a whipping boy while ducking the demand for a complete purge of all Trotskyists from positions of influence in the party.

Frontier on both right and left

Mr Peter Shore, Shadow Chancellor, told a meeting at Swansea last night: "Of course, to those avowed Trotskyists and infiltrators, the burning over of a house, the exposure to the light of day, will be as unwelcome as sun light to Dracula - and predictably, we shall hear plaintive cries of witchhunts and McCarthyism."

Mr Foot was committed to parliamentary democracy, to democratic socialism, and tolerance in a broad-based Labour party. But the party had a frontier on both the right and the left. "That frontier must be guarded and widened," Mr Shore said.

Mr Denis Healey, Labour's deputy leader, is expected to tell a meeting in Leeds this afternoon that those responsible for the sectarian rifts of the past must be effectively dealt with. The entire Labour leadership is agreed that time is running out fast.

Mr Ron Hayward, general secretary, said in Warwickshire last night: "Time is not on our side, but we do have time to get it all together, if we start now."

Militant Tendency has already warned that there will be a hurricane of grass-roots protest if there is any move to attack its base in the party. But such demands exist, and have been fired by Mr Foot.

Mr Mervyn Rees, another Shadow Cabinet member, said last night that in parts of London, where Labour representation was high but declining, "good local councillors are being rejected by Star Chamber court methods". Small groups were organizing his

lists against elected Members of Parliament.

Mr Tatchell asked about his reaction to Mr Foot's comment in the Commons that he would never be an endorsed Labour candidate, said he had not had a chance to read Hansard and would make no comment until he had seen the party leader at Monday's meeting. But he said: "I am surprised in the way in which the thing has developed."

A tall, self-assured Australian, he gave a press conference yesterday flanked by senior members of the Bermondsey Labour party. He was a radical democratic socialist who supported parliamentary democracy, he said. He would not be fighting the election on far or ultra-left policies but on the official policy of the Labour party.

He was not a member of, and did not support, the Militant Tendency. Neither did he belong to any other group or faction in the party.

Asked what he meant by extra-parliamentary activity he said he was referring to any form of political activity which took place outside parliament, such as peaceful mass protests.

"My support for a siege of parliament was really a restatement of the age-old form of political protest - the mass lobby of Parliament to demand housing, jobs and a better standard of living for the working-class people of this country."

The kind of extra-parliamentary activity he supported was the TUC's Day of Action and the People's March for Jobs. "My only wish is that all 250 Labour MPs had been marching shoulder to shoulder with the unemployed."

All the members of the Bermondsey party lived or worked locally. Their growth in numbers from 400 to more than 800 in 18 months was because the party was taking up local issues and fighting for local people.

Mr Tatchell supported equal rights and civil liberties for all minorities, including gay people and ethnic minorities. He accused Mr James Wellbeloved, the SDP MP whose question in the Commons led to Mr Foot's intervention, of a "cheap political gimmick."

Livingstone support for Tatchell

The local party executive at Bermondsey fully supports Mr Tatchell. He was selected as candidate by most of the 70 members of the general management committee who attended the selection meeting in November. Mr Ted Bowman, acting chairman of the party, said: "He is going to be endorsed. There is no problem about it."

Mr Tatchell was also supported yesterday by Mr Kenneth Livingstone, Labour leader of the GLC, who described him as an "excellent candidate."

One of Mr Benn's closest Commons colleagues, Mr Stuart Holland, MP, Vauxhall, said yesterday that Mr Foot should concentrate on advocating Labour policy in the country, rather than attacking individual candidates of the party.

Nevertheless, Mr Foot is expected to carry his case against Mr Tatchell on Monday. Foot and the left, page 2

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Militia gun fights end Beirut's five-week truce

From Robert Fisk, Beirut, Dec 4

Beirut's carefully nurtured five-week ceasefire began to fragment this morning after a night of gun battles between militias loyal to Iran and Iraq. The two groups fired mortars and rocket-propelled grenades at each other in the heavily-populated Musheir district of the city until Syrian troops and Palestinian guerrillas helped to formulate a local truce at dawn. Only four hours later, Lebanese police found two big bombs hidden near the city's busiest shopping streets. One of them, hidden under a rubbish bin off Hamra Street, a thoroughfare lined with boutiques and cheap cafes, was defused just 30 minutes before it was due to explode. Near the Kuwait embassy eight bombs were dismantled with only five minutes to spare, according to the police. Few Lebanese believed that the five-week truce would last any longer than the hundreds of ceasefires that preceded it. The more cynical politicians here had already observed that the most recent truce had only been imposed before the PLO Arab summit in order to keep Lebanon off the conference agenda and that once the summit had ended fighting would recommence in Beirut. Last night's fighting, in which at least one gunman died, involved mostly Kurdish guerrillas. A small proxy war between Iraqi and Iranian supporters has been going on in Lebanon for almost two years and the participants presumably do not regard themselves as bound by the ceasefire rules agreed between the Palestinians, Syrians and

Raid hero tries to calm Sinai militants

From Christopher Walker, Yammouk, Sinai, Dec 4

General Dan Shomron, leader of the Entebbe raid and commander of the southern front, today joined a long list of prominent Israelis who have personally intervened in an effort to calm the growing militancy among Jewish settlers due to be evacuated from their Sinai homes before April 25. The general, one of Israel's most popular military heroes, arrived at the desert town of Yamit this morning to find the heavy entrance gates welded shut and barricaded with barbed wire and piles of tyres.

Looking down on the barricades was a sandbagged watch tower containing a crude effigy of Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, as denounced by many of the settlers for his part in signing the Camp David accords. One of the Hebrew posters attached to the fence warned the general: "And this is only the beginning."

Over the past 48 hours, the town has been the scene of violent protests which culminated in the burning of a number of government buildings. Last night vigilantes wearing helmets and wielding cudgels appeared to resist a renegade Army move against the block. The latest unrest in Yamit, the largest settlement due to be handed back to Egypt, began on Wednesday night when residents blocked all three entrance roads through the high security fence in protest against the breakdown of negotiations over compensation for local businessmen.

Today, leaders of the protest were anxious to distinguish their campaign from that of another group of Sinai residents who are preparing to resist the evacuation because they insist that the occupied area is part of the Biblical land of Israel. More than 60 families have arrived in Yamit and the surrounding desert zone in an effort to fill every house vacated by those Jews prepared to accept the Government's terms and leave peacefully. Over 20 of the families have recently taken over the town's only school.

Mr Avi Yigal, leader of the Businessmen's Committee and the owner of a small factory, explained: "For some of the others the struggle is idealistic, but we are fighting for our bellies. There are 60 families here dragging on for two years and have come to nothing."

The General Assembly tonight asked Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, to consult and co-operate with the Palestinian Liberation Organisation, the representative of the Palestinian people in preparing a report on the Palestinians (AP reports from New York).

The resolution called for a comprehensive report on the deteriorating living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories, and condemned Israel for those conditions.



Police help victims of torrential rain through the mud and wreckage of their homes in Teresopolis, Brazil. The flooding has killed 43 people and made 700 homeless in the Rio de Janeiro area.

'Collective security' plea by Haig

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington, Dec 4

Mr Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State, today pledged the United States to prevent any Central American country from becoming a platform for terror and war and offered a new programme of economic assistance to the region.

He repeated his attacks on Cuba whose activities have resulted in what he described as "terror for the innocent". He told the General Assembly of the Organisation of American States in St Lucia: "The United States is prepared to join others in doing whatever is prudent and necessary to prevent any country in Central America from becoming a platform of terror and war in the region."

The main thrust of his speech was a warning against intervention, which, he said, should be opposed by 'collective security'. "The other nations of Central America must also be asking about the meaning of these militant activities. They fear—and we must all fear—that the future may hold a costly arms race at the expense of economic development and social progress. They fear—

Why Malta banned 'Times' from its election campaign

From Peter Nichols, Rome, Dec 4

The issue in the forthcoming Maltese elections is whether Mr Dom Mintoff will be re-elected Prime Minister or replaced by Mr Eddie Fenech Adams. There is no such obvious simplicity about the reason for the banning by the Maltese Government of the *Times* in the campaign which ends on December 12.

The irrational is necessarily concerning the Maltese embassy here admits to being totally unable to interpret the Government's ban, either as a political consideration or as an issue that can only appear large to the small minded.

The realities of the contest are obscured by the Government's own concentration on eccentric details in its dealing with the world's press. A German television team has just been expelled. I was myself earlier this year in Malta as part of an attempt to explain that the quarrel already existing between the *Times* and the Maltese Government was not a question

of our side, of great significance or of unfairness.

The Director of Information of the Maltese Government had complained about the contents of a comparatively brief dispatch from our Malta correspondent and had written a long letter of rebuttal to *The Times*.

At the same time he forbade the sale of *The Times* in Malta and this ban continues. The letter was not published, but remains the formal basis for the Maltese Government's refusal to allow a representative of *The Times* to follow the electoral campaign.

This was not, however, the only issue involved. I had, as usual before visiting a foreign country, informed the Maltese embassy here of my plans and had asked them to make arrangements for me to meet the Government press authorities.

A day after this request had been made I was told by the Maltese embassy that there were complications and that I should telephone personally to the Director of Information of the Maltese Government. He told me once again that his letter had been unanswered but he added other accusations.

He said that after my last visit to Malta, which had been in connection with the ban on the sale of *The Times*, I had written articles from Rome which were "untruthful and critical of us".

I was surprised because the one article I had written from Rome seemed to me to be a moderate, sensible attempt to describe Mr Mintoff's outlook in the most favourable way possible. My only long conversation with him had been when he was in opposition and he then had proved a stimulating and open speaker.

When I pressed the Government spokesman to back up his accusation he said: "You attacked our health service." When I suggested mildly that he might have misread what I said as I had not written about the health service or confused with someone else, he added: "Whatever you have written we know that privately you speak badly of us behind our backs."

Earlier, the Senate conditionally endorsed the President's plan for building 100 MX missiles, the other controversial element in his nuclear arms package.

The House of Representatives has already approved the two weapons system.

Although the Senate never seemed likely to defeat his proposals, Mr Reagan intervened personally to assist his victory.

He also wrote to the Senate before the MX missile vote saying that a defeat would undermine the American position in the world's nuclear balance.

On the possibility of price controls being introduced, Mr Mugabe said the Government did not want to see increases in wages being nullified by sudden price rises. "It is my belief that while we have made a positive move in meeting the expectations of the lesser-paid

Reagan steps up security in wake of Libyan threat

From Nicholas Hirst, Washington, Dec 4

President Reagan has ordered Secret Service protection for his three top White House aides as Intelligence and Federal Bureau of Investigation agents search the country for a five-man Libyan assassination squad.

A report today in *The New York Times* says law enforcement agencies have been given detailed evidence by an unnamed informant that a Libyan hit-team entered the country at the weekend intent on killing President Reagan, his family, or senior Administration officials.

"They want to make a sensation," a senior law enforcement officer said. "If they can't get the President, they're apparently under instructions to kill anyone close to him."

At first, *The New York Times* says, officers were sceptical of continuing reports that a Libyan hit-team was trying to kill the President, but the informant, who was not an American, had remained

credible after intensive questioning.

Security for the President and the Secretary of State has been tightened. Administration officials confirmed yesterday that Secret Service protection had been ordered for Mr Edwin Meese, the White House Counselor, Mr James Baker, the Chief of Staff, and Mr Michael Deaver, his deputy.

Intelligence sources said that Mr Maxwell Rabb, the United States Ambassador to Italy, was hastily flown out of Milan in October because of fears that he was the subject of a Libyan assassination plot.

The sources said Air Force One, the Presidential aircraft, had been equipped with electronic equipment to evade a missile attack. Mr Reagan was riding in unmarked cars instead of his official limousine.

The Secret Service had recently begun sending decoy motorcades through Washington.

EEC may block aid to Turkey

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Dec 4

The European Commission has taken the political initiative in deciding to recommend a block on its latest aid package for Turkey, following the decision to kill Mr Bülent Ecevit, the former Turkish Prime Minister.

The European Council is being advised by the Commission not to approve this E290m Fourth Financial Protocol, which has been ready for final signature since June. In doing so it has expressed its regret and concern at the four-month prison sentence confirmed on Mr Ecevit for defying the country's military rulers.

The Commission called in the Turkish Ambassador to the Community at the beginning of last month to warn him that the sentence had given rise to real doubts as to whether or not Turkey was really going through with its promised process for a return to democracy.

This message was repeated personally by Mr Gaston Thery, the Commission President, to the Turkish Foreign Minister on November 18.

The Commission has been particularly concerned about the democratic evolution inside Turkey in view of its application to become a full member of the Community. It continued to negotiate the aid package in the hope that democracy would be developing in parallel.

The sentence on Mr Ecevit, despite the warnings, has crushed this hope, at least for the time being, and has led the Commission to recommend blocking the aid.

The amount of aid involved is too small to have any significant financial impact on the Turkish economy, and as the Turkish Embassy to the Community today the Commission decision was seen clearly as an attempt to interfere in domestic Turkish politics.

Ankara tells Weinberger of Soviet military threat

From Simon Fisk, Ankara, Dec 4

Turkish Defence Ministry officials today briefed Mr Caspar Weinberger, the United States Defence Secretary, on "the Soviet order of battle against Turkey", which an American defence source said was an impressive display of force and a threat to the North Atlantic alliance as a whole.

The talks between Mr Weinberger and Mr Haluk Bayraktar, Turkey's Defence Minister, centred on the security of the West in general, with particular emphasis on improving defence cooperation between Turkey and the United States.

Diplomats here believed that Turkey would turn more and more to Washington after West European Nato countries halted aid to Turkey to mark their displeasure with the military ruler's method of restoring democracy.

Turkish officials today did not directly ask the United States to intercede with other allies such as West Germany, a source said, but he believed it was clear that Turkey hopes the Reagan Administration will do so.

Turkish officials expressed a strong desire to return to a stable democracy, and the United States believed this would be achieved, "not because of outside pressures, but because it is what the Turkish nation believes it wants".

The source said the two countries have also decided to set up a high-level working group to discuss other things, speed up delivery of weapons to Turkey, and facilitate the operation of the defence and economic aid agreement.

Turkish officials told Mr Weinberger that they are ready to cooperate with the alliance as a whole for participation in a rapid deployment force in case of an outside threat to Nato.

Both sides said they hoped Mr Andrija Pampurov, the Greek Prime Minister, would not put his campaign rhetoric into action and that Athens would stand by its commitments to Nato.

Most diplomats here saw in Mr Weinberger's visit—which will be followed by a visit to Ankara on December 13 by Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State—as an implicit pro-Turkish stand by the Reagan Administration in response to Mr Pampurov's threats.

SPACE 'KILLER' CLAIM DENIED

The United States Defence Department has denied an

report that the Soviet Union has assembled and tested a killer satellite (our Foreign Staff writes).

The latest issue of *Aviation Week* identifies the killer satellite—capable of attacking other spacecraft—as Cosmos 1567, docked with the Salyut 6 space station since June.

"From what we know of the Soviet space programme we cannot conclude that they have the system described in the *Aviation Week* article," a Defence Department spokesman said.

signed a 1978 agreement in Bonn to cease all flights to a country which refuses to extradite or prosecute hijackers.

Britain said yesterday that it had not yet heard from Washington officially, which suggests that the Americans are in no great hurry to pursue the matter any further.

In Port Elizabeth, Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, said that he would quell some of the criticism by letting it be known that his Government was considering legislation to ban members of its armed services from serving as mercenaries.

Mugabe wages policy upsets businessmen

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, Dec 4

Industrialists and farming groups today said the Zimbabwe Government's latest stride towards its egalitarian policy, that of reducing wage disparity, was a radical action that would have a serious effect in some sectors of the economy.

Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, outlined increases of 66 per cent and 22.5 per cent for two groups of workers at the lowest pay yesterday. At the same time he announced limits on the amount that may be paid to higher wage earners and foreshadowed the introduction of price controls.

The latest move to introduce the minimum wage for industrial and commercial workers from \$285 (about £65) to \$310 and for domestic and farm workers from \$230 to \$250.

Mr Abner Botsh, the black president of the Associated Chambers of Commerce of Zimbabwe, said the increases would have to be passed on to the consumer and could force businesses to close unless this were recognized in any future prices policy.

The spokesman for the Zimbabwe Tobacco Association said the impact of the 66 per cent increase was of great concern.

Tobacco is Zimbabwe's main foreign currency earner. "The body recognized the need for wage increases but cannot understand an increase of this nature," he said.

Mr James Sinclair, the president of the Commercial Farmers Union, said the increases could lead to a serious decline in agricultural production and potentially massive reduction in employment.

The proposals also appear certain to disturb urban whites who employ more than 100,000 domestic servants.

Mr Mugabe, anticipating that both farmers and domestic employers may try to get rid of their workers rather than pay the increases, said that no dismissals would be permitted.

That might be difficult to enforce, and the Government appears to have gambled that

B1 bomber plan wins Senate vote

Washington, Dec 4—President Reagan's plan to spend \$180,000m (£100,000m) on modernising American strategic nuclear forces over the next six years seemed certain to go ahead after being approved in the Senate last night.

The Senate overwhelmingly approved the proposal to build 100 B1 bombers, described by opponents as the most expensive weapons systems ever undertaken by the United States.

By 66 votes to 28, it quashed an attempt by a group of Democrats to have the money spent instead on improving the forces' combat readiness and on conventional arms, aircraft and ships.

Earlier, the Senate conditionally endorsed the President's plan for building 100 MX missiles, the other controversial element in his nuclear arms package.

The House of Representatives has already approved the two weapons system.

Although the Senate never seemed likely to defeat his proposals, Mr Reagan intervened personally to assist his victory.

He also wrote to the Senate before the MX missile vote saying that a defeat would undermine the American position in the world's nuclear balance.

On the possibility of price controls being introduced, Mr Mugabe said the Government did not want to see increases in wages being nullified by sudden price rises. "It is my belief that while we have made a positive move in meeting the expectations of the lesser-paid

workers, we have also made a positive move in meeting the expectations of the lesser-paid

workers, we have also made a positive move in meeting the expectations of the lesser-paid

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Ceausescu's peace spectacular

Bucharest—With a spectacular peace march through the centre of Bucharest which is expected to attract 500,000 demonstrators in a series of demonstrations, President Ceausescu will be winding up his peace campaign today (Dessa Travian writes).

Compromise on US budget cuts

Washington—President Reagan has agreed to compromise with Republicans on budget cuts for fiscal year 1982. He originally wanted cuts of \$8,400m (£5,400m) but has agreed to a \$4,000m (£2,600m) cut, a compromise agreed by Congress last week in a resolution which he vetoed.

Trudeau thanks Thatcher

Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, yesterday thanked Mrs Margaret Thatcher for the British Government's patience and forbearance while Canadian political leaders haggled over proposed changes to the constitution (our Foreign Staff writes).

During their transatlantic telephone conversation Mrs Thatcher and Mr Trudeau also discussed the timetable for British approval of the patriation of the Canadian constitution and the fact that the Canadian House of Commons will also be asked to endorse a rights charter.

A first reading of what will be called the Canada Bill, may be possible before the Christmas recess on December 23. If there are no major objections the Bill should be ready for signing by the Queen late February or early March.

Recount leaves Kean winner

Mr Thomas Kean, the Republican candidate, has become Governor of New Jersey by 1,577 votes, Mr James Florio his Democratic opponent conceded this week.

Mr Florio had held out demanding a computer recount of the 2.3 million votes cast, and during the four weeks since voting he had maintained offices and an elaborate preparation for taking over the reins of government, bearing the cost of \$40,000 (£20,000) from campaign funds.

Although 3,000 votes changed sides Mr Kean's lead remained unimpaired.

Why Sir Probyn lost his job

Sir Probyn, India was dismissed as Governor of the Associated state of St Kitts-Nevis because the working relationship between him and the island's Premier, Dr Kennedy Simmonds, had broken down irrevocably, MPs were told.

In a Commons written reply to Dr Edmund Marshall (Lab, South), Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, said the islands' Premier, Dr Kennedy Simmonds, had asked for his resignation.

Sir Probyn, aged 45, was dismissed in November at the end of a long constitutional dispute.

Arms seized in ministry building

Rome—An arms cache including submachine guns, rifles, pistols and bombs has been discovered in the Italian Ministry of Health building. A ministry guard has been arrested.

The arms were allegedly found in his flat, which is in the ministry building. Police said the weapons were hired to common criminals and right-wing extremists.

Africans press for their UN candidate

New York—The 50-nation African group at the United Nations is making a final effort to persuade the United States to end its opposition to the candidacy of Mr Salim Ahmed Salim, the Tanzanian Foreign Minister as Secretary-General.

The group were today debating the decision made yesterday by Dr Kurt Waldheim that he would not seek reelection, through balloting by the council members.

Syrian reshuffle

Damascus—Mr Abdul-Rauf al-Kaam, the Syrian Prime Minister partly reshuffled his 37-man cabinet, changing nine ministries. The existing government was formed in January, 1980.

El Salvador junta urged to consult guerrillas

From Our Correspondent New York, Dec 4

A largely Western-sponsored resolution asking the Salvadoran government of President Jose Napoleon Duarte to initiate pre-election negotiations with the left-wing insurgents trying to overthrow him was adopted today at the committee level of the United Nations General Assembly.

The vote, with 65 in favour, 21 against and 54 abstentions, failed to give the committee the means to send a clear message to El Salvador.

The number of fence-sitters gave the United States a victory of sorts because its isolation in the Western camp was not all that apparent at first glance. Washington is in the middle of a campaign supporting the Salvadoran junta while at the same time criticising Nicaragua for its backing of the Revolutionary Front.

Most West European countries supported the resolution and by proxy opposed the United States, while Britain attempted to act as a bridge-builder and abstained.

El Salvador today said allegations in the resolution that it had committed grave violations of human rights and "fundamental freedoms" were "a lie" and that the resolution itself "an intervention in its internal affairs."

France, Denmark, Greece, The Netherlands, Algeria, Ireland, Mexico, Sweden, Yugoslavia and Nicaragua sponsored the draft, which for the first time tied together social and political aspects in El Salvador.

Solidarity warns Government of strike action

Warsaw, Dec 4. — Solidarity

demanded important political concessions today as a condition for joining the Communists in a national front, and gave a warning that it would bring the nation out on strike if the authorities declared a state of emergency.

The union's demands, published after a meeting of regional chiefs, came in response to a government crackdown which brought troops and riot police into action in Warsaw on Wednesday to break a strike by cadet firemen.

The demands are subject to adoption by the union's national commission, which meets on Gdansk next week, but they spell out for the first time Solidarity's official position on joining the Communist-sponsored national front.

The union accused the Communists of promoting a facade and called for free local elections, access to the mass media, a Solidarity version of a trade union law, a halt to reprisals against union activists, fully fledged economic reform, and union control over food and the economy as minimum conditions for national accord.

The Communist establishment has opposed most of the demands on the grounds that they are politically unacceptable.

Reagan red carpet for Jonas Savimbi

From Nicholas Ashford Washington, Dec 4

When Dr Jonas Savimbi, the Angolan insurgent leader, visited Washington two years ago, the Carter Administration refused him access to senior officials. This week he has been accorded red-carpet treatment by President Reagan.

Yesterday Dr Savimbi, who heads the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) which is fighting a bush war against the left-wing Government in Lusaka, had talks with Mr Walker Stoppel, Deputy Secretary for Political Affairs, and Dr Chester Crocker, the Assistant Secretary for African Affairs.

In the absence of Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, and his deputy, Mr William Clark, both of whom are abroad, Mr Stoppel is the most senior official in the State Department. Dr Savimbi is also seeing a number of other senior officials and other people of influence in Washington.

A State Department spokesman, emphasising that Dr Savimbi's visit was a private one, said that the United States considered Unita to be a legitimate political force in Angola which had to be taken into account. The Administration was taking advantage of his visit to Washington to exchange views.

The high-level reception accorded to Dr Savimbi will not be welcomed by the Angolan Government, which has no formal diplomatic relations with the United States. Angola claims that Unita insurgents are being backed by South Africa, and that the presence of 12,000 Cuban troops in Angola is necessary to combat this joint Unita-South African threat.

Lisbon: Angola says the Savimbi visit represents interference by the Reagan Administration in its internal affairs, according to reports reaching Lisbon (AP reports).

A dispatch from the Angolan news agency Angop, which normally echoes the policies of the ruling MPLA party, also cited Associated Press and United Press International reports as quoting Dr Savimbi as saying his visit to New York was undertaken in search of more military aid.

Dr Savimbi's visit to the United States confirmed "the policy of interference in the internal affairs of Angola

45 killed in tower panic

Forty-five people were killed yesterday inside

one of India's great monuments, the 800-year-old Qutab Minar tower (above) on the outskirts of Delhi. (Trevor Fishlock writes from Delhi)

They were trampled in a stampede on the worn and slippery spiral staircase. According to reports there was panic among the estimated 400 people in the tower when the lights went out.

Many of the dead and injured were schoolchildren and college students. Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, went to the scene of the disaster and later visited injured people in hospital.

The disaster might have been even worse. The Qutab Minar always attracts crowds, especially on Fridays, and hundreds were queuing to get in.

The tower is 237ft high and has 378 steps. It was started in the twelfth century and completed in the fourteenth.

Sultry Miss Turner fails to cheer up the Poles

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, Dec 4

Poles were briefly allowed to forget their economic and political crisis this week and concentrate on the gold lame microskirt of Tina Turner, the sultry American singer of the 1960s and beyond.

All, however, did not go according to plan. The ever-giggling Miss Turner, not showing her 40 or 50 years but showing almost everything else, appeared at Warsaw's ice hockey stadium determined that politics should be left alone and that everyone should snatch a brief moment of joy.

At first the young audience who included a group of Soviet soldiers in full dress uniform sitting at the back of the stadium, were a little baffled by Miss Turner's athletic charm, beehive hair style and precarious high heels.

The audience began to

The day our correspondent became a 'convict' Ensnared in Ciskei's web of eager informers

From Michael Hornsby, Zwelitsha, Ciskei, Dec 4

Major General Charles Sebe, of the intelligence service of the newly independent Ciskei Homeland and brother of its ruler, Chief Lennox Sebe, was jostled by a bowing and scraping local headman who was busy-shepherding women and children — there are few in Ciskei since they have to go outside its borders to find work — into two buses for a "spontaneous" visit to the independence celebrations in the new stadium further north.

We did not know it at the time, but we had already been ensnared in what General Sebe later proudly called "my spider's web" of informers. Emerging from the dusty track leading back to the main road through Mdantsane, Ciskei's biggest township, we were headed off by two police cars with flashing lights.

Proffered press cards were to no avail. Our presence was unauthorised, a plain clothed official with the police insisted. His orders were to take us to headquarters at Zwelitsha, 20 miles away. Under police escort, with the surly plain clothes man in the back seat, we set off.

A black student, whose mother lived in Potchefstroom, East London, was by now badly frightened. Clearly fearing the worst, he slipped

FARE CUTS TROUBLE AIRLINES

By Our Transport Correspondent

America's controversial free market policy for air fares, which has led to cut-throat competition and big fare cuts on both domestic and international routes, may have to be changed, Mr Ed Meyer, president of Trans World Airlines said in London today.

He said the policy was clearly wrong on international routes because it meant exporting United States domestic regulations to countries and governments which simply "don't share our fervour for a free market."

Domestically, it had still to be shown if the policy, launched by President Carter and retained by President Reagan, was in the long-term interests of the consumer, Mr Meyer said.

In order to work it would have to produce higher fares

France invalidates four elections

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Dec 4

M Alain Peyrefitte, former Minister of Justice in the Barre Government, will be a candidate for the National Assembly in a forthcoming by-election at Provins, east of Paris. The by-election is caused by the decision of the Constitutional Council to invalidate the poll along with three others held in the general election, because of irregularities.

On June 21, M Peyrefitte lost to a Socialist by 186 votes out of nearly 60,000 the seat he had held uninterrupted since 1958. Of the four elections invalidated, two in the provinces were won by Socialists, one in Paris by a left-wing Gaullist, backed by the Socialists, and one by a veteran Gaullist.

These by-elections will be held before the cantonal elections in March, which the left is expected to win. It will

Spare the rules, spoil the child.

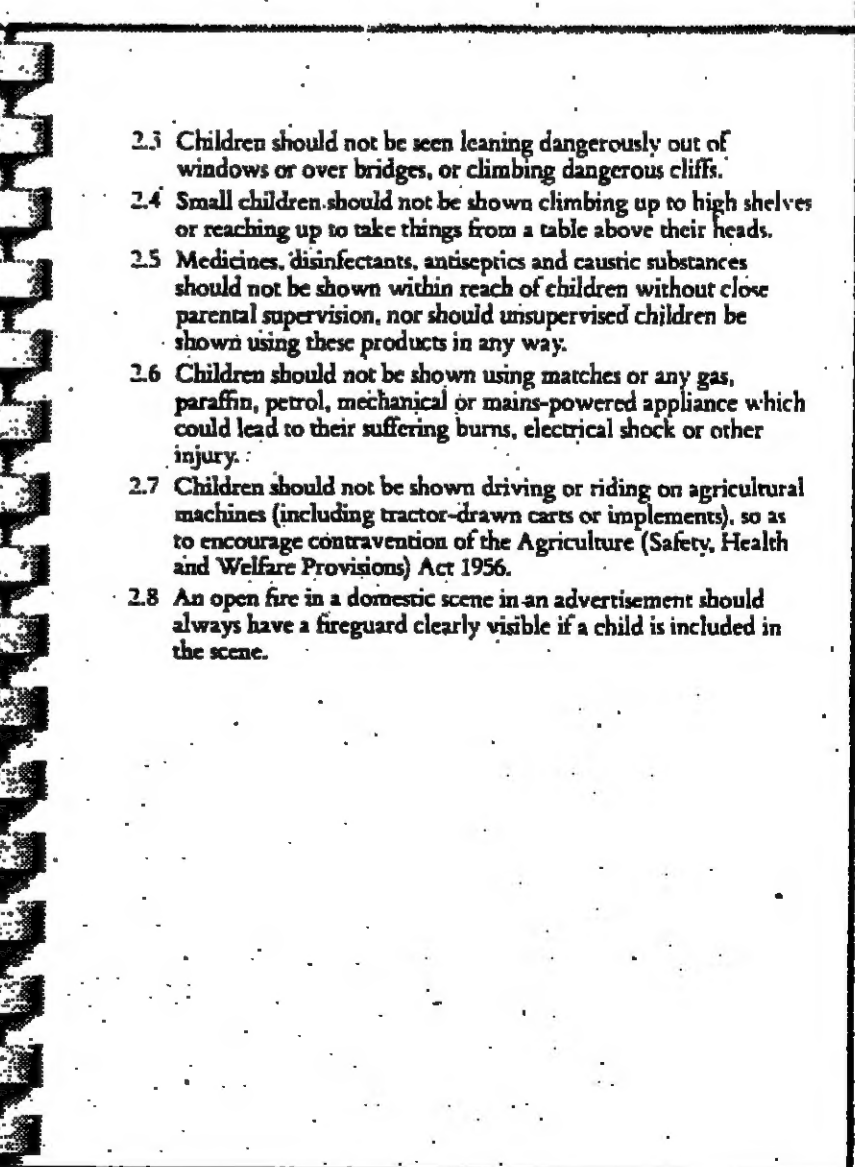
A child is sometimes the most susceptible and vulnerable consumer of all. Which is why any advertising aimed at children needs tight control. Hence the rules on the right.

They appear in a book called the British Code of Advertising Practice. In it are many rules, not just affecting children's advertising. They govern all advertisements which appear in the press, in direct mail, in print, on posters and cinema commercials.

The Code is used by the Advertising Standards Authority whose job it is to protect the public from unacceptable advertising. (To help us interpret and develop the Code, we have recently carried out research into children's reactions to advertisements.)

Amongst other things, the ASA responds to consumers' complaints, and this briefly is the way the system works. Members of the public can write to us to complain about any advertisement they find unacceptable. If, after investigation, we find the advertise-

- Appendix B Children
- General
- 1.1 Direct appeals or exhortations to buy should not be made to children unless the product advertised is one likely to be of interest to them which they could reasonably be expected to afford for themselves.
 - 1.2 Advertisements should not encourage children to make themselves a nuisance to their parents, or anyone else, with the aim of persuading them to buy an advertised product.
 - 1.3 No advertisement should cause children to believe that they will be inferior to other children, or unpopular with them, if they do not buy a particular product, or have it bought for them.
 - 1.4 No advertisement for a commercial product should suggest to children that, if they do not buy it or encourage others to do so, they will be failing in their duty or lacking in loyalty.
 - 1.5 Advertisements addressed to children should make it easy for a child to judge the true size of a product (preferably by showing it in relation to some common object) and should take care to avoid any confusion between the characteristics of real-life articles and toy copies of them.
 - 1.6 Where the results obtainable by the use of a product are shown, these should not exaggerate what is attainable by an ordinary child.
 - 1.7 Advertisements addressed to children should where ever possible give the price of the advertised product.
- Safety
- 2.1 No advertisement, particularly for a collecting scheme, should encourage children to enter strange places or to converse with strangers in an effort to collect coupons, wrappers, labels or the like.
 - 2.2 Children should not appear to be unattended in street scenes unless they are obviously old enough to be responsible for their own safety; should not be shown playing in the road, unless it is clearly shown to be a play-street or other safe area; should not be shown stepping carelessly off the pavement or crossing the road without due care; in busy street scenes should be seen to use the zebra crossings when crossing the road; and should be otherwise seen in general, as pedestrians or cyclists, to behave in accordance with the Highway Code.
 - 2.3 Children should not be seen leaning dangerously out of windows or over bridges, or climbing dangerous cliffs.
 - 2.4 Small children should not be shown climbing up to high shelves or reaching up to take things from a table above their heads.
 - 2.5 Medicines, disinfectants, antiseptics and caustic substances should not be shown within reach of children without close parental supervision, nor should unsupervised children be shown using these products in any way.
 - 2.6 Children should not be shown using matches or any gas, paraffin, petrol, mechanical or mains-powered appliance which could lead to their suffering burns, electrical shock or other injury.
 - 2.7 Children should not be shown driving or riding on agricultural machines (including tractor-drawn carts or implements), so as to encourage contravention of the Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act 1956.
 - 2.8 An open fire in a domestic scene in an advertisement should always have a fireguard clearly visible if a child is included in the scene.



ment contravenes the Code, we instruct the advertiser to amend or withdraw the advertisement.

If you would like to know more about the Code on advertisements addressed to children, or about us, or if you have any cause to complain

about an advertisement, we'd like to hear from you. If an advertiser breaks one of the rules, we won't let him get off lightly.

The Advertising Standards Authority.
If an advertisement is wrong, we're here to put it right.

ASA Ltd, Brook House, Torrington Place, London WC1E 7HN.

The way out of make-believe land for Labour's Muppets

Raymond Fletcher MP, former Tribune and close associate of Mr Tony Benn, faces 'resurrection' in his Ilkley constituency tonight. Amid the uncertainty about his own future, he explains his fears for the future of the Labour Party.

Today's politicians remind me of the Muppet show. The political Muppets may not always be grotesque and they are rarely funny but they are puppets. Their comments and gestures are predictable. And they seem to inhabit a strange world in which the voter is assumed to check the feasibility of "policies" (ah, blessed word), assess the exacting amount of the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement and go into abstruse tactical calculations about the effect of his vote on the state of the nation before entering the polling station to cast it.

Nobody could be a political Muppet, of course, unless he had programmed these assumptions into his public self. All the Prime Minister's men must comfort her, themselves and their party with the reassuringly predictable 23,000 Crosby voters still thought that Monaghan and Margaret were both Good Things.

Labour Muppetry has acquired a strange vocabulary of its own which explains a good deal about the Labour Party but little about anything else. "The Media", for

example, has replaced "Capitalism" in the party's dictionary of abuse. It is difficult to see why.

Practically every documentary programme I see chronicles the villainies of former CIA agents in Libya, Mafia-controlled jerry-building operations in southern Italy or the alleged ethical effects of some of the products of Swiss drug companies. As for drama, probably more influential than documentaries, Mr Trevor Griffiths and his brilliantly subversive colleagues use the small screen (and quite rightly) as a private theatre.

The popular press is certainly pretty ghastly, but the proper question to ask about *The Sun* is not whether it has created a third political party. It is why is it popular? And if it does have the power to seduce millions of working class voters from their natural allegiance to Labour, what kind of allegiance was it in the first place and what kind of people were those who gave it?

There was a time when the working class acted collectively and had demonstrably collective aspirations. Its members accepted public ownership because this was linked with such desirable ends as the public provision of health care and improved education and the blurring of the economic, nationalistic and regional divisions. There have been different swings between one constituency

and its immediate neighbour. History is not a mighty stream. It has its rivulets, pools and waterfalls.

The electoral results of this process of individualisation, however, need not be guessed at; they can be counted. Since 1951, Labour's high tide, the party's support has dropped except in the single year of 1966. Only a political Muppet would find a comforting explanation for this.

Not even he, however, would find much comfort in the chilling statistics that reveal a continued drop in Labour support when the party is in opposition. When the party is in opposition, things are not as they are and things as they are now are somewhat gruesome — cannot harness the inevitable indignation, then something is seriously wrong.

It cannot be given a name. Mr. Tony Benn undoubtedly sends shivers down many spines, by no means all of them of the Labour type. What he actually advocates, however, is not markedly different from the policies he took into the Department of Industry in 1974. His contest with Mr. Michael Foot in the deputy leadership (a non-posting if ever there was one) has merely created a dual leadership. With Mr. Michael Foot in Parliament and Mr. Benn in the country, neither the Conservative nor the Labour Party is in a position to lead.

Internal struggles do

immobilise a party. Yet if there were a rising tide of indignation against the Government and the social system it preserves, protests and demands, if there were a rebirth of collectivism of almost volcanic strength among the workers, and if there were a national will to regenerate the economy, replenish the social services with funds and really make life impossible for the most unpopular government in decades — such a political tide would simply drown the squabblers.

No such movement can be discerned on any political seismograph. This nation is sinking into an embittered torpor and though the squabblers get tighter every time, the economic resurgence they are supposed to bring about obstinately refuses to show itself.

One must be old-fashioned and use language tainted by past ill usage. Without the emergence of a national will to succeed, no policies will save us because no policies will work. The Labour Party has become a party of the shrewd and starts again, beginning with an examination of what its natural supporters really want, as distinct from what half-baked pamphleteers tell us they want, the Labour Party will gradually disappear from the political scene.

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Internal struggles do

Paul Theroux on how he kicked the habit



Paul Theroux and pipes of the past: it now seems as if there are three or four more hours in the day

Now that my puffing days are over

Without a doubt, the worst side-effect of giving up smoking is talking about it. Listeners fidget, cough and change their seats, their eyes become glazed, and soon the room begins to empty as — the non-smoker is in full cry. Anyone who has just given up smoking is a form of smoke. It is also a sharp intake of smoke, a ritual of grieving, because an aspect of you — You-the-Smoker (as vivid as You-the-Jogger) — has departed forever. Unless you have smoked it is impossible to know the pleasure of it. That is an essential fact, smoking is fun! But it is also, unfortunately, fatal. It has that in common with other vices. There is a vicious justice in the deadliness that it combines pleasure with its penalty.

If smoking was completely harmless and insulating to the senses it would be easy to give up. But consider the small raw tobacco; it is as sweet as a lemon as that of a raisin on grass and fresh oranges and Chinese tea and chocolate and coffee beans and an infant's milky breath. And the advantages of smoking are enormous. For one thing, the smoke itself is obscenely only to be inhaled deeply in a much more satisfactory than sniffing it or breathing it.

I smoked for 20 years. For the first decade I smoked a pack of cigarettes a day; for the second decade I smoked a pipe — about a quarter of a pound of tobacco a week — and I inhaled the pipe smoke. It was not until I gave up that I noticed how it had affected me. Smoking helped my digestion, it soothed me — seemed to bring down my pulse-rate and it aided my concentration. It is possible that these were illusions, but the fact is that I felt calmer and worked more attentively when I smoked, and I was more efficient.

The motions associated with pipe-smoking are elaborate and consoling and silly looking. It is a fussy little business you transact on your lap and requires a fair amount of dexterity. For the shy person, or the person who is a little bit of a loner, his feet, it is a godsend. He filled his pipe meditatively, then struck a match and, puffing slowly, savoured it, he fixed his eyes on me and this is really just another way of describing a man in a quandary: he doesn't have an answer ready, so he pretends to suck it out of his pipe. The pipe smoker is seldom a quick thinker; he needs his prop, and he may use his pipe-stem in a mock-hostile way, jabbing at you and

saying, "Define your terms!" The smoker, because of the smoke, often looks assured, independent, self-absorbed. Smoking gives people a sense of mastery in a chaotic world. The smoker's hands are always busy, inspiring confidence. And what is more dramatic than the smoker's decisive exhalation, the plume of smoke — a kind of cautioning dragon's breath — that accompanies a negative answer. "Smokers frequently exude smoke instead of saying no," says a sharp intake of smoke, usually means yes. If there is such a book as *The Sociology of Smoking* I would love to read it. Has anyone in a movie ever said, "May I light your cigarette?" and not intended to have a sexual undertone?

And there is the relationship between smoking and time. This can partly be explained in terms of the way smoking burns up precious energy. It is an alternative to action and it is constructive because it aids thought by fixing one's concentration. It may be a rudimentary form of yoga, since smokers breathing is rhythmic and conducive to a posture of repose. Most of all, it is a way of dealing with time.

I stopped smoking and immediately became aware of more hours in the day. Time passed slowly, and there was more of it. This strange excess of time made me self-conscious. That is, I was awkward, feeling of being unable to think in a measured way provoked a person to light up.

Yet the first regret I had on realising this was how much time I had wasted by willfully dulling my mind. It is more than the physical feeling of numbness — the smoker's trance — it is the smoker's routine, the time involved in the repetition of gestures, again and again, several times a day, for several years. One of the sorrows of the person who has stopped smoking comes with the realization that all this time has gone up in smoke.

It is no exaggeration for me to say that I now seem as if there are three or four hours more in the day. And I am more active (smoking is, inevitably, a habit of the armchair), so I sleep more soundly at night. It amazes me that for years, as I almost brooded in the afternoon, I developed a splitting headache. When I stopped smoking, the headaches stopped. I sometimes had hangovers, but now I feel like a new man. It was not the smoking that gave me the hideous morning-after feeling; it was not alcohol. And in the morning my tongue no longer feels like a dead mouse. I had never considered giving up smoking until one day I had a bad case of

bronchitis. I kept on smoking. The bronchitis grew worse. And then I felt as if I had been poisoned. I imagined that I had become a man with a blood dark as smoke. My eyes stung, my tongue burned, my lungs were blighted. I could hardly breathe. I felt as if I were being strangled, as well as poisoned. After that it was easy to stop. And, when I experimented with a pipe-full, I could not continue without feeling violently ill. Perhaps this is called aversion therapy? It certainly is. I recommend it to anyone who finds it hard to give up.

My advice would be don't cut down, don't taper off, but, rather, smoke more than ever. Have one after another, as many as you can — eat them, suck yourself on them. It is possible that after a week of this you will never want to look at another cigarette or pipe.

That was the case with me. For the first month I smoked a room in which people were smoking. The smoke disgusted me, and I found the habit so offensive. I had an insane longing to lecture strangers in the field — that burning impulse that is such a dangerous side-effect.

Later, I found it to be an encouragement — to watch other people smoke. Smokers begin to look foolish, over-practised, like ham actors pathetically posturing. Watching people smoke, examining all those gestures and winces and gasps, ought to reinforce the desire not to smoke. Alas, though, smokers themselves may have a feeling of poise and well-being, they seldom, to the outsider, seem anything but weak and addicted. The activity of smoking always looks desperate, pitiful and vaguely pathetic. It is like watching a drunkard, drinking, yodel, a mixture of disgust, pity, sorrow, longing and contempt; you want to help, and most of all you feel the opposite of temptation. It is a more pathetic sight than that of a man begging, cowering, or his cigarette lit.

It takes a kind of bourgeois self-love to swear off smoking, and only swiftness can keep away the temptation to resume. That sense of satisfaction, the spiritual upsurge in the lovely phrase long used by the novelist William Styron in an interview. He had recently given up smoking — how did he feel? "I feel," he said, "a certain 'fatness' of soul." It is horrible, but it is a quick thought; he needs his prop, and he may use his pipe-stem in a mock-hostile way, jabbing at you and

Summer puts in an hour's overtime

As in Grantchester, there's honey still for tea in the new Covent Garden (Now, always buy a pot at Culpeper's, if you can't get any in one of the innumerable cafes.)

But Rupert Brooke would find it harder than at Grantchester to get a rhyme. The church clock stands at ten to four. The big blue and gold clock under the pediment of Inigo Jones's barn-like St Paul's (where Eliza Doolittle sat with her flowers) has still not been changed from British Summer Time, which officially ended on Sunday, October 26.

It's the same when you walk up into Covent Garden from the Strand. A big, black, confident-looking clock — one of the lesser-known artefacts of Edward Lutyens — juts out above the Southampton Street post office, near where George Newman used to publish his illustrated instalments of Sherlock Holmes. But in Britain today not even the post office runs on the Over the river, at the Hayward Gallery, the Lutyens exhibition commemorates the high noon of empire. But here in Southampton Street, it is one o'clock high.

Public clocks are one of the main monuments of what we've come to think of as the Protestant Ethic: the day divided up into separate bits, each with their different tasks, like a Ford assembly line. I'm someone who doesn't much like wearing a wristwatch, and till quite recently that Protestant inheritance worked well enough for me to manage without. But not any longer. It is as bad as being without a watch of your own in Italy or Spain. Clocks are stopped, or are wrong; or are (like that Covent Garden crazy pair) in the wrong time-zone for large stretches of the year.

To call it the Protestant Ethic is a libel on all those aggressively capitalist early Lombard bankers. And the precise chopping-up of the time of day was an invention of the Benedictine Order. "Through its regularity and efficiency," Lewis Mumford wrote in *The Myth of the Machine*, "the monastery laid a groundwork for both capitalist organization and further mechanization." From the cloister, "this time-keeping habit spread back to the marketplace... so that, from the fourth century on, a whole town would time its activities by the ringing of the tower clock's bells."

Henry VIII and Thomas Cromwell notoriously gave capitalism its biggest boost in England by nationalizing the monasteries' wealth and giving their lands to royal trustees; and it became the fourth Article of the Established Church that you should be able to tell the time by it. The clock had come out of the cloister.

For T. S. Eliot in 1922, a church clock had become the very embodiment of the city; or, more precisely, the City. A crowd flowed over London Bridge, so many, I had not thought death had undone so many. Flowed up the hill and down King William Street, To where Saint Mary Woolnoth kept the hours With a dead sound on the final stroke of nine.

Even within that dry New England soul, perhaps, rebellion against the rule of the clocks was beginning to stir. At precisely the same moment as *The Wasteland* was published, Lutyens was



Stands the Lutyens clock at ten to four? Does Greenwich Time apply no more?

beginning to play such childish games as designing Queen Mary's dolls' houses. No doubt it already made more sense than commemorating the Raj in New Delhi. The clockwork idea itself, the empire was already beginning to whirr and clank erratically.

Was it Edward Heath, with his three-day week, who finally scuppered the Englishman's sense of time? Or, despite his later-day attempt to be a saint of moderation, was a much more revolutionary figure than Mrs T. To create a week of three days was something of the French Revolution would have admired. Though, in the event, lasted for even less time than their own stab at a "decimal" ten-day week.

But even when a revolution fails, things are never quite the same again. And certainly, somewhere in the 1970s, time got out of joint in this country. It started not to matter that a clock showed the wrong time. The American anthropologist, Edward T. Hall, has drawn a distinction between what he calls "monochronic" and "polychronic" peoples. The monochronic puts time into compartments: "they schedule one thing at a time and become disoriented if they have to do too many things at once." The polychronic "tend to keep several operations going at once, like jugglers." Professor Hall paints a line between north and south.

"Monochronic northern Europeans, for example, find the constant interruptions of polychronic southern Europeans almost unbearable because it seems that nothing ever gets done. Since order is not important to the southern Europeans, the customer with the most push gets served first, even though he may have been the last to enter."

But he wrote that 15 years ago; he can't have been in line for a London bus recently. The classic English queue has become a cluster. The Thames is now a Mediterranean estuary. In fact, it is becoming a Venice. The art is good (or, at least, the television is). It's a very pleasant place to be. We have our Commons and Cabinet, as the Venetian Republic had its Council of Ten. The marketplace of Covent Garden has abandoned its old semi-industrial base. (The clocks ran true when fruit and veg lorries were in the square at night.) It is now London's St Mark's Square: a polychronic miscellany of competing activities.

Once (like Venice) did we hold the gorgeous East in fee, But Britannia is now into self-awareness, not expansion. She's slumped down so much she will soon have an hour-glass figure. The clock is un wound; and the sands perhaps are running out.

Paul Barker

The author is editor, *New Society*.

New Saladins keeping Khomeini at bay

Saladin, 800 years ago, saw no need to devote his tremendous energies to the protection of his Kurdish kinsfolk. So secure were they in their mountainous fastness of a homeland to the south of the lakes of Van and Urmia that he did not call for some of their best soldiers to Egypt and Syria to command his armies. But the coming of radio, television and the helicopter gunship has transformed the situation for the people whose Alexander, Caesar, Khalid and Tamerlane did not impress. For the first time in 3,000 years their survival is in danger.

The Kurdish homeland straddles the borders of Iraq, Iran and Turkey, and it is in Iraq that the most important battle is being fought. The old Kurdish Democratic Party, of 1946, which had remained dormant in the years of the Shah's ascendancy, sprang into action in 1978 and is leading his fight. The KDP has suffered some setbacks during the past year. It has had to vacate the towns to prevent heavy damage being inflicted on them by the Iranian army's heavy guns, and over the past two months it has been withdrawing its forces from the villages west of Lake Urmia in the face of an army attack.

The KDP has now been able to reorganize its forces and mount an offensive again. Last month it took the headquarters of the Revolutionary Guards in the towns of Sanandaj, Piranshahr and

Bukan. More than 100 guards were killed in Bukan alone, according to Dr Saad Badal, a member of the party's central committee.

Saïan Mahmadi, a chief of the Shaka tribe, decided to revive the days of the war lords. He recently killed Rasheed Karim, a Government delegate, and a prominent Kurdish member of Iran's Communist Party, together with more than 50 Revolutionary Guards.

The main leader of the present Kurdish revolt in Iran, Dr. Abdolkarim Kashevari, is a former lecturer at the Sorbonne and a moderate. His sole demand has been a modest devolution of power from Tehran to an elected provincial assembly. Kashevari, leaving defence, foreign policy and economic planning firmly in the hands of the central Government. But he does not share Ayatollah Khomeini's vision of an Islamic universe and his offers of negotiation have always been met by a further dispatch of troops to Kurdistan.

The Kurds, whose ranks



Hazhir Teimourian

The Social Democrats have captured their first local authority. Perhaps they might have hoped for a better start than the conversion of Islington borough council. It may not give quite the right impression for a council that has been known well and loved so little suddenly to be revealed as the face of Social Democracy in office. Quite an exercise of imagination is required to see Islington as a beacon of political hope rather than as a warning of what Labour-entrenched power can do to local government.

But the impression created by one council may soon be forgotten as the Social Democratic and Liberal tide sweeps over a host of local authorities. Perhaps that might be pitching it a bit high simply because it is not all authorities whose control will be taken in next May's elections. These will concern only the London boroughs, the districts and the Scottish regions; and in some of the metropolitan and all the non-metropolitan districts only one third of the councillors come up for election next year.

That should nonetheless leave plenty of scope for the alliance to seize some of the commanding heights of British local government. On present trends they will do so. Within six months they will be running Birmingham and Manchester as well as a number of the other eight metropolitan districts where all the members will be elected in 1982, most of the London boroughs and perhaps some of the Scottish regions as well.

This may be bad luck. Local authorities are likely to be operating in extremely difficult conditions next year, caught between Mr Heseltine and their own ratepayers, and the ability of numerous unknown councillors to keep out of trouble locally will be no indication of the alliance's capacity to deliver nationally. But there is no way that the test can be avoided. They must win the seats to maintain momentum, and having won, the seats they must show that they are credible in office.

The alliance is on the whole working remarkably well in preparing for the local elections. It was agreed last summer by Mr David Steel and Mr William Rodgers

this writer must declare he has the honour — and the misfortune — of belonging, are variously estimated, to a number between twelve and eighteen million.

It seems, however, that numbers are no longer growing, not only because of the high rates of mortality that result from poverty in a harsh climate, but also because of recurrent rebellions enforced migrations out of our homeland and the continued shrinking of the Kurdish country through assimilation at its borders.

As in the past, fratricide also continues to play a part in keeping our population down. Sharaf-e-Din, the Kurdish Prince of Rih, anticipated Malheur in his *History of Kurdistan* in 1936: "By the grace of God, so fertile are the Kurds that were it not for the frequent occurrence of internal feuds among them, famine would come to hold sway over the Kingdom of Iran and perhaps even the world."

The Kurds, whose ranks

with pipe-smoking are elaborate and consoling and silly looking. It is a fussy little business you transact on your lap and requires a fair amount of dexterity. For the shy person, or the person who is a little bit of a loner, his feet, it is a godsend. He filled his pipe meditatively, then struck a match and, puffing slowly, savoured it, he fixed his eyes on me and this is really just another way of describing a man in a quandary: he doesn't have an answer ready, so he pretends to suck it out of his pipe. The pipe smoker is seldom a quick thinker; he needs his prop, and he may use his pipe-stem in a mock-hostile way, jabbing at you and

Geoffrey Smith

Can the Social Democrats pass the town hall test?

So, well before the next general election the capacity of the Social Democrats and Liberals to fight a series of joint campaigns up and down the country, and even to run an administration together, will have been put to the test. It will be in the town halls of Britain, rather than in the glamour of Westminster and Whitehall, that the alliance will first have to show that it is capable of governing.

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The alliance is on the whole working remarkably well in preparing for the local elections. It was agreed last summer by Mr David Steel and Mr William Rodgers

as leaders of their respective negotiating teams that they could not intervene from the centre to help to divide up the seats between their two parties. Whereas there is an elaborate process for determining which of them shall contest each parliamentary constituency, for the local elections everything was to be left to local initiative.

That was wise, because the alternative would have been dreadfully bureaucratic. It was also a recognition of reality, because the local parties on both sides would not have been prepared to put up with such interference for local elections. Nor has it proved to be needed. They have galloped into cooperative agreements with a speed and enthusiasm that has surprised even their superiors.

In Scotland, Birmingham and Liverpool agreements have been concluded. They have been worked out in large parts of London and in Manchester the local parties are about two thirds of the way there. There have been some difficulties. In Chelmsford there is as yet no meeting of minds. In Sheffield

field minds have met but are in some danger of being forced apart again. The local parties agreed, but on terms that the regional Social Democrats considered excessively generous to the Liberals.

A certain generosity to the Liberals is likely to be evident over the country taken as a whole because they are the more established in local government and they should find it easier to field teams of competent and experienced candidates. But even in their case a good deal of work needs to be done to prepare candidates who may be experienced as councillors for the more daunting task of actually running an authority.

For the Social Democrats there is the more serious challenge of finding enough candidates who are experienced in local government at all. Some of those who have moved over from Labour have excellent credentials. Not only do they know what the inside of a town hall looks like, but they have imaginative ideas which they should find it easier to put into effect now that they are

free of the incubus of Labour's leftwing. There are other converts schooled in the ways of Labour local government who bring a chill to the hearts of their new colleagues. But the SDP is alive to the danger of being represented by too many former Labour council hacks.

It is the sheer inexperience of many of their candidates that is likely to prove the greater risk for the Social Democrats. They are a party that is by its nature more attuned to national than to local government. It grew from the top down.

Many active SDP members are people of capacity in their own walks of life. But a high proportion of them have no previous experience of political life and are in any case fully occupied in their own careers. They did not join the Social Democrats because they wished to be active in local government, and if they now feel inclined to be, it is doubtful if many of them could spare the time to serve on a council, much less to run it.

The party has established a panel from whom parliament-

ary candidates will be chosen. The choice is made by the local party, but a degree of central control over the suitability of candidates can be exercised by vetting those who go on the panel. This procedure would be both impossible and unacceptable for local elections. A bit may be done by the party centrally to make up for local inexperience by holding weekend schools in the spring for candidates and agents. But essentially the Social Democrats will be forced to put their trust in local judgment.

This will apply to policies as well as personalities. Will SDP candidates — and after the election, councils under alliance control — concentrate on holding down the rates or on preserving programmes in face of the pressure for cuts? There will probably be many variations in different parts of the country. To some extent such variations may be taken for granted. There will be differences between Conservative councils and still more between Labour councils. Some Labour councils may get themselves into an absurd position on this issue. The executive committee of the London Labour Party is supporting a proposal that local authorities should implement the cuts. Others have more extreme suggestions.

The danger for the Social Democrats is different. It is not that they will be extreme. It is that by going off in different directions they may reinforce the impression of a party without an identity.



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HOW TO KEEP AN ALLY

It was no doubt a coincidence, but an unfortunate one, that Mr. Caspar Weinberger arrived in Ankara on the same day that Mr. Bülent Ecevit, the former Turkish prime minister, began serving his four-month prison sentence. It has in any case served to highlight the difference in attitudes to current developments in Turkey between the United States and Western Europe. While Mr. Weinberger is in Ankara discussing closer defence ties between Turkey and the United States, and President Reagan has asked Congress for substantially increased aid to Turkey in 1982, the European Commission has withdrawn its recommendation for a £290m aid package that has been awaiting signature since June, and both the Danish and West German governments have indicated their intention of withholding their contributions to the \$973m package pledged through the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. More symbolically, it now seems increasingly likely that Turkey will be expelled from the Council of Europe early next year.

The difference is uncomfortably reminiscent of the one which arose over the Greek dictatorship between 1967 and 1974, when the colonels simultaneously languished in the European doghouse and basked in the favour of the Johnson and Nixon administrations. That was also the period when the European Community was insisting on the need for democracy in Spain and Portugal, while the United States was condoning if not actively supporting dictatorship in Latin America.

In the mid 1970s many Americans recognized that this had been a short-sighted as well as unethical policy, and under President Carter a determined effort was made to re-establish America's reputation as the worldwide promoter of democracy and human rights. Under Mr. Reagan that effort has not been sustained.

The Greeks are still showing the symptoms of an acute anti-Americanism, acquired largely as a result of their experiences in 1967-74. It would be sad indeed, and dangerous, if the Turks, particularly those liberal-minded sections of the Turkish community that Mr. Ecevit represents, were to be infected with the same disease.

Against that argument the Turkish military regime and its American supporters can reasonably plead that the Greek and Turkish cases are not really comparable. The Greek coup of 1967 was carried out by a clique of ambitious and fanatical officers to prevent an election in which a very moderate left-wing party had every prospect of assuming power quite peacefully. The Turkish coup of 1980 was undertaken by the senior commanders of the armed forces to save the country from endemic terrorism at a time when its elected political leaders had manifestly failed to overcome partisan squabbles and measure up to the gravity of the crisis. The coup was widely welcomed by the population and its necessity was more or less acknowledged by the political leaders themselves. It is generally admitted that the military regime has done a

good job in greatly reducing the level of political violence and in providing the necessary stability for at least a partial economic recovery.

For all those reasons Europeans as well as Americans were initially willing to give the new regime the benefit of the doubt. But more searching doubts are justified now that fifty-two prominent Turkish trade unionists are to go on trial, facing possible death sentences, on December 24 — a date surely chosen deliberately to ensure the minimum of publicity in Christian countries, now that newspapers are being closed, and journalists arrested, for purely verbal criticisms of the regime expressed in quite unflattering language; now that all political parties have been permanently dissolved; their property put up for sale and all former politicians banned from standing in future elections.

Suppression of terrorism is certainly vital, and sweeping measures for a short time can certainly be justified. But it is most unlikely that violence can be permanently suppressed by the systematic repression of criticism, by the exclusion from politics of all those for whom in the past people have actually been willing to vote or by the entrusting of constituent powers to a hand-picked assembly of conservative bureaucrats.

Turkey's very strategic importance makes it vital that its people, not just its military leaders, remain firm friends of the West. Uncritical support for the present regime may not be the best way to ensure that.

NO ARTS, NO LETTERS, NO SOCIETY

The Government has wasted no time in making public its list of allocations to the arts in the coming year, after the lurid warnings issued this week by the directors of the British Museum, the Victoria and Albert and the Tate. How far the latter influenced the former, and whether of not Mr. Christopher Price, MP, was being teasingly provocative in asking the directors what would be the effects of a three-year freeze in grant which was never on the cards, may be allowed to pass into obscurity in the general rejoicing and relief among those concerned with the arts.

In present circumstances, the allocation is a reasonable one, and it should cause none of the predicted devastation — not, at least, unless the rise in relevant public sector salaries runs beyond the percentage allowed for (a matter largely out of the control of the museums and galleries themselves). For the Arts Council, charged with distributing funds to the live and performing arts, the level of grant should avert the necessity for another culling of its own budget comparable to that of a year ago. In the summer the Council was reported to be preparing plans for a possible frozen grant this year, which would have caused violent disruption where a measure of stability in real terms from year to year is important.

This year has been an

unhappy one for the Arts Council, with a succession of squabbles, some consequent on the great cut, some indicative of poor communications within the Council's own structure. It was not wrong last year to discard organisations that no longer deserved support, though particular decisions, and their suddenness were questionable. Some victims which seemed hard done by have gained alternative sponsorship, as the Council no doubt calculated. The Old Vic company did not, and the long closure of that theatre (in spite of some hopes of better news shortly) does not make the decision to abandon it look any wiser than it did at the time.

Taken all round, yesterday's announcement represents a cut in real spending of about two per cent. The arts cannot claim a complete exemption from the general need to economise. Different kinds of enterprise face different risks, but almost all are handicapped by being unavoidably costly, in manpower, manning economies are hard to come by in the arts. If times grow harder, it is possible to envisage museums having to close an additional day each week. Unwelcome as it would be to have their assets locked away when they should be on view, that would be preferable

either to entry charges or to partial closure, which is acutely frustrating to visitors who find the very rooms they want inaccessible.

In the theatre, there has been a healthy symbiosis apparent this year in London, with many successful productions — a dozen at a time sometimes — transferring from state companies to commercial houses, to the benefit of both. But the recent threat to replace the Fortune Theatre with an office block incorporating a theatre even more diminutive than the present one is a reminder of the special dangers theatres face, even thriving ones, whenever property values are high.

A high level of public subsidy in the arts remains necessary today, as it has been ever since the decline of the wealthy individual patron. It is right to pursue all possible alternative means of support, from industrial patronage and museum shops to a more benign tax regime for individual patrons, but these endeavours can at best only supplement public subsidy. There are few votes in public support for the arts, but Britain's high international standing in the field makes them a vital foreign exchange earner. Failing to give them the support they need would prove in the end a catastrophic false economy.

LET TAXPAYERS PUT ASUNDER

The Law Society has seldom been seen as the promulgator of radical solutions. Its urgent plea for immediate reform of the tax system is therefore the more remarkable. The burden of the Society's message is that the tax system as it affects families is grossly unfair and in urgent need of adjustment. If, as the Government has indicated, full-scale reform is not possible until the end of the decade, then the Law Society believes, interim measures must be taken to redress some of the worst inequities. Few would disagree.

The real inequities stem from the outdated notion that women once married do not exist as separate taxpaying members of society. Our property laws long ago recognized a married woman's right to own property, but the tax laws trail miserably behind, failing to take account of women's dramatically changed role in society.

In December 1980 the Government published a Green Paper on the Taxation of Husband and Wife putting forward for debate several possible solutions. Since then most organizations have made their representations to the

Inland Revenue. They have come down firmly in favour of mandatory separate taxation of husband and wife and the removal of the married man's allowance, with the surplus being used to increase child benefit. The sticking point is whether the tax allowance of the non-working spouse, usually the wife, should be transferable to the husband to be offset against his income.

Organizations which represent the older woman — often housewives without paid employment — feel that removal of the married man's allowance without making the wife's personal allowance transferable to the husband would put childless couples with non-working wives at a disadvantage.

With the proportion of working wives approaching 65 per cent amongst younger age groups it is probably true to say that childless couples with nonworking wives enjoy over generous tax treatment compared with families with children.

Much of this resentment could be removed if the Government were to take the first step to do away with the married man's allowance and

use the surplus to increase child benefit. Whether or not separate taxation should be mandatory (the source of the Government's reluctance to act since the Inland Revenue complains that mandatory separate taxation would overnight double the administrative burden) could be decided at a later date, as could the capital gains tax factors. As compensation for the couple with a nonworking wife, it should be possible to make concessions on the treatment of a wife's investment income to balance the loss of the married man's allowance. The Government has itself effectively abolished tax on investment income by its flooding of the market with tax-free National Savings securities; so the loss of revenue would probably be negligible.

What is unacceptable is the Government's argument that major changes on tax treatment of families should await computerisation of the system in the late eighties. It may be an excuse that the Inland Revenue staff finds acceptable. It is not an excuse for a government that came into power with the declared determination to give our tax system the radical overhaul that it needs.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Restoring communion with Rome?

From The Right Reverend John R. H. Moorman and the Right Reverend Edward Knapp-Fisher
Sir, The Anglican Communion is faced by a great dilemma. It is caught between the one horn of the ancient Churches represented by Rome and Orthodoxy, and on the other by Protestantism in all its forms. The time has now come when it must make a decision between the two.

The time is fast approaching when we shall be asked "To which Church do you belong?" but "Are you a Christian?" In an age marked by the revival of such religions as Islam and Hinduism as well as by the growth of Marxism and indifference, Christians constitute but a small part of the world's population. In these circumstances it is essential that we should become, and be seen to be, one Church; and that Church must surely have Roman Catholicism as its basis. Our first priority should therefore be to enter into communion with Rome.

For four hundred years our relations with the Roman Catholic Church have been unhappy, and with some reason. In the past Rome has been both arrogant and offensive. As recently as 1928, in the encyclical *Mortalius Animus*, Pius XI made the monstrous declaration that "Whosoever is not united with the body (ie the Roman Catholic Church) is a member of it, neither is he in Communion with Christ's head."

Even John XXIII regarded Vatican II as an opportunity for that Church to put itself in order, that those outside could return into the fold of Peter. That has all changed; and Rome is now discussing questions of unity with Orthodox, Anglicans, Lutherans, Methodists and others with a view to establishing a

one great Church to which we all look.

In 1966 the then Archbishop of Canterbury and Paul VI agreed that examination of the theological questions which separated Canterbury from Rome should be inaugurated without delay. The Anglican/Roman Catholic International Commission appointed for this purpose has now completed its work.

The Agreed Statements already published on Eucharist, Ministry and Authority indicate that on doctrinal matters — our two churches are much closer than seemed possible. These three Statements, together with a fourth and other important material, will be included in the commission's Final Report which it is hoped will be published in January, 1982. This should be compulsory reading for all those concerned with ecumenism if not with the future of the Church, and uniformed prejudices are to be removed.

Whether or not the Agreed Statements will be acceptable to our two churches and lead to unity between us is open to question. They clearly demonstrate, however, that on important matters upon which we have disagreed there is a considerable degree of genuine agreement between us.

What then should the Anglican Communion do? If, as surely we should, we take the long view, we should grasp the opportunity now before us and at least postpone entering into agreements with other churches which would inevitably draw us away from what is bound to be the coming great Church.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN R. H. MOORMAN,
EDWARD KNAPP-FISHER,
22 Springwell Road,
Durham.

Romney Marsh

From the Archbishop of Canterbury and others
Sir, We write in support of the appeal which Mr Michael Nightingale has made (November 28) on behalf of the Romney Marsh churches.

Few parts of Southern England remain so peculiarly local in character as the bleak countryside of Romney Marsh and the churches scattered over its flat fields of sheep, corn, and potatoes are a group of quite exceptional medieval buildings.

Despite some generous assistance in the past, several of these churches now urgently need major repairs, which their small congregations cannot afford. As a result we ask all those with an interest in the maintenance of historic buildings to help make them structurally sound, so that they will still have a place of worship — and magnificent monuments to the faith of those who built them.

Mr Nightingale has drawn attention to the open meeting at St George's Church (itself a fine thirteenth-century building) in the heart of the Marsh) on Saturday, December 5, at 2.30 pm. For those who would like to help maintain these marvellous churches, but cannot attend, donations can be sent to: Romney Marsh Rural Churches, Barclays Bank, Cranbrook, Kent. Yours faithfully,

PROBERT CANTUAR,
RICHARD INGRAMS,
JOHN PIPER
Lambeth Palace, SE1,
November 30.

From Mr Christopher Gilson

Sir, The appalling revelation (November 28) that nine churches on Romney Marsh could only offer one service between them on a Friday is a serious condemnation of current Anglican attitudes to worship. At almost every Anglican meeting nowadays one hears bishops and clergy speaking of the priesthood of the laity and their desire to involve the laity more in the running of the Church. As soon as any real opportunity for showing the reality of these views occurs, the story changes.

On Romney Marsh all of these churches had a service of Morning Prayer and sung every Sunday, if the local laity were really involved. Churchwardens may take the services if no one else is available, but surely the local area must contain readers willing to travel out into the Marsh to ensure that the worship of God is maintained in these holy buildings?

To pass a church which does not open weekly for the worship of God is to proclaim a Church in retreat. If the diocese involved is unwilling to serve God on the Marsh, or anywhere else, is there not an Anglican layman who can create a national army of church

people who promise to maintain the worship once entrusted to the clergy, who now retreat and close what they will not maintain and share?

The obsession of the Church with the Communion Service, and the inflation which is cutting the number of clergy, will soon close many more churches. Unless readers and other laity are mobilized to maintain the life of prayer and praise, the present state of non-worship on Romney Marsh will soon become normal in wide tracts of rural England and, one suspects, in industrial England too.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER GILSON,
28 Cell Farm Avenue,
Old Windsor,
Berkshire,
November 29

From the President of Kent County Cricket Club

Sir, Mr D. H. L. Hopkinson (December 2), making the point that certain churches on Romney Marsh in the diocese of Canterbury have been closed whereas others which are in the Chichester diocese remain open, remarks strangely that "All Sussex men have known for centuries that we conduct our affairs and cricket better than Kent."

And cricket? I imagine that supporters of Sussex Cricket may have been somewhat mystified by this peculiar claim. If results are fair evidence they will know that over the 1970s their men won one title against the 10 of Kent, plus another shared.

However the strong challenge for the County Championship made last summer by John Barclay's Sussex team was greatly admired on this side of the border, and if our ancient opponents were to win their first-ever championship Kent would be among the first to applaud.

Yours faithfully,
E. W. SWANTON,
Delf House,
Sandwich,
Kent,
December 3.

From the Clerk of Romney Marsh

Sir, May I correct Messrs. Nightingale (November 28) and Hopkinson (December 2) who stated that the parishes of Midley, Brookland and Fairfield mentioned by Mr Nightingale, and those of Camber and East Guldeford quoted by Mr Hopkinson are not within Romney Marsh. They are in Wiltshire.

The parish of Dymchurch is within Romney Marsh and at least two services are held in the parish church of St Peter and St Paul each Sunday.

Yours faithfully,
A. F. LACKNER,
Clerk of the Office,
New Hall,
Dymchurch,
Romney Marsh,
Kent,
December 2.

Wheelchairs at cinemas

From Mr E. G. Herzog

Sir, The point raised by the Reverend Derek Hayward (November 28) is a difficult one. Having been the editor of the *Sheffield Guide for the Disabled* for 10 years, I have had many conversations with cinema managers. They are rightly afraid of the responsibilities involved. The "access" sign says simply "Yes". One cannot modify it by such sentences as "Yes if legs only affected but arms strong". "No" unless accompanied by a resourceful adult. A single step, a heavy door open towards you and one can easily be defeated, especially if the lights have failed and there is a panic.

Helpful managers of cinemas, night clubs or bingo halls sometimes allow a disabled person into an ordinary seat and then insist that the wheelchair be taken outside. This seems to me the worst possible solution. Can one imagine someone trying to bring a wheelchair into a hall

against a stream of people trying to get out? It is an outbreak of fire which, after all, we are talking about!

A wheelchair is an eminently mobile thing and not to be compared to a crate of bottles or a bucket and broom which fall under the heading "the gangways must at all times be kept free from obstruction". A booklet describing access to places of entertainment and covering the whole country exists but, although it has a foreword by the then Minister for the Disabled, it completely ignores this point; nor does it mention the great danger the immobile handicapped person could be to others when made to sit at the end of a row of seats.

A preliminary inspection and a talk with the staff seems the only solution. As one further point, toilets in cinemas are almost invariably hopeless.

Yours truly,
E. G. HERZOG,
81 Marsh House Road,
Sheffield,
November 29.

What Social Democrats stand for

From the Reverend P. Rountree Clifford

Sir, Politicians frequently misrepresent the views of their opponents in the mistaken belief that this strengthens their own case. As a result they undermine their credibility. Nowhere has this been more apparent than in the repeated charge that the Liberal-Social Democratic Alliance is lacking in policies.

The crucial difference from both the Conservative and the Labour parties is the commitment of the Alliance to constitutional reform which, David Steel has consistently argued, is the *sine qua non* of economic recovery. Confidence in our democratic institutions will not be restored without it, nor will a period of stability be secured in which industrialists can plan for the future without the fear of drastic swings of the pendulum.

Furthermore, it is maintained, this could underpin the beginning of a new climate of co-operation with co-partnership and profit-sharing in industry, making unacceptable the dogmatic which has bedevilled the British economy for so many years.

There is also, of course, the wholehearted commitment to Europe and to partnership with the countries of the Third World, disastrously relegated on the agenda of both Conservative and Labour parties.

More detailed policies on a range of other subjects have long been adopted by the Liberal Party and it seems that the Social Democrats are likely to be in broad agreement with these when the joint working groups have completed their discussions.

A radically fresh approach to politics and the economy is now being offered to the British people. The other two parties are entitled to disagree with what is being proposed. They should stop the nonsense of pretending that they do not know what the policies are.

Yours faithfully,
P. ROUNTREE CLIFFORD,
The Reform Club,
Pall Mall, SW1,
December 2.

From Mr Kevin O'Sullivan

Sir, Ian Bradley's profile of the SDP ("Socially Distinguished People", November 30) was

surely unfair in describing the membership as middle-class people with conservative views.

The poll he quotes showed overwhelming support (ie more than 70 per cent) for staying in the Common Market; an incomes policy; government aid to industry; multilateral disarmament; worker-directors in companies; curtailment of trade union legal immunities; the mixed economy.

It also showed an overwhelming antipathy (72 per cent) to leaving private schools as they are, and was in favour of the introduction of a wealth tax. Far from being conservative this programme seems reformist in the Callaghan-Fleahy tradition with a touch of Mitterrand thrown in.

The SDP may be middle class (80 per cent of the British people consider that they are middle class) but on the evidence they're not conservative.

Yours faithfully,
KEVIN O'SULLIVAN,
47 Draycott Place, SW3,
December 1.

From Mr David J. Willis

Sir, *Weekend World's* comprehensive survey of the SDP showed what was already clear, that they are a predominantly middle-class self-centred "moderate" party who are in favour of reform as long as it doesn't affect them.

Their anti-trade union posture is in fact more extreme than the Government's present proposal, and on most other issues is closer to the Tory "wets" than to even the Liberals. Shirley Williams and David Owen's hopes for a radical party are certain to be dashed.

If, as seems certain, Roy Jenkins is confirmed as leader, the electorate will be faced with a choice of either Tory or pseudo-Tory with the Liberals swallowed up and absorbed.

The only real alternative will always be the Labour Party and unless they can renounce themselves and present a credible and unified stance to the voters the prospects will be bleak indeed.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID J. WILLIS,
Isfrin, 23 Cargwyn,
Penwithick,
St Austell, Cornwall,
November 29.

From Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC

Sir, Lord Justice Lawton (November, 27) states that his experience in the criminal courts stretching over 46 years leads him to think that recidivist offenders would be likely to start re-offending within days or weeks of their being released.

Hence the Lord Chief Justice and those Lords Justices who preside in the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) did not favour the automatic release on licence after one-third of a sentence.

Three years or less, which the Home Secretary was proposing to introduce in the Criminal Justice Bill.

They concluded from their experience that while persistent offenders are in prison they are not trying on the public, to encourage legislation allowing for their earlier release would simply invite the judges to compensate by lengthening their sentences.

Given that imprisonment for potential recidivists merely postpones the furthering of their criminal careers, the crucial question is: will postponement of re-offending be materially curtailed by an earlier release? The periodicity of re-offending is not readily calculable; it certainly has not been established in fact what Lord Justice Lawton and his judicial colleagues would have to believe. I would merely quote paragraph 193 of the report in 1978 on Sentences of Imprisonment by the Advisory Council on the Penal System, a report that has been sadly neglected:

"We draw some comfort from the conclusion of the parole study (Parole Research Study No 38, 1976) which stated that more liberal policy on the part of the Parole Board in recent years, compared with the policy adopted when parole was first introduced, had not worsened the failure rate of parolees during the period of the licence. As we record in Chapter 2, a policy of releasing sentences has been effective in the past, admittedly in different circumstances from today, without apparently increasing the crime rate. Although the reconviction figures we studied do not give cause for optimism, it is after all, easy to exaggerate the effect that shorter sentences might have on the quality of offending. We acknowledge that there is likely to be some increase in the commission of offences, but we believe that this is a risk we must all be prepared to take."

More recent research undertaken for the Home Office Research Unit by Messrs Brodie and Turling has affirmed that the incapacitation of offenders does not materially affect the overall crime rate.

Yours sincerely,
LOUIS BLOM-COOPER,
Goldsmith Building, ECA.

Question of credit

From Mr Malvyn A. Benjamin

Sir, Last Monday the *Panorama* programme on BBC1 gave a very penetrating analysis of the way in which Colonel Gaddafi and the Libyan Government have become the promoter and paymaster of international terrorism.

It was therefore with astonishment that my attention was drawn to the Eurocredit arranged for Libya. This credit was established mainly by Arab or Arab-related institutions, but a British bank, the Midland, is also participating.

I believe that the bank owes its shareholders and customers an explanation, because one's concern is not merely over political differences. Libya has become a parish in the international community, sending picked teams throughout the world to assassinate exiled opponents of its Government, and having regard to the numerous men, women and children killed or maimed at the hands of international terrorist organizations financed by Libya the bank obviously has many questions to answer.

I am therefore requesting that the "listening bank" listens to its customers and perhaps even to its conscience.

Yours sincerely,
MALVYN BENJAMIN, Joint Chairman,
Herut Movement of Great Britain,
71 Coudray Gardens, NW6,
November 25.

The burden of lorries

From Mr A. C. McKinnon

Sir, The recent Transport White Paper claims that, if lorry weights are increased by the proposed amounts, industry's freight transport bill can be reduced by around £150 million. May I suggest an alternative way of achieving a comparable level of saving which, and opening, a weight proposal, would carry unquestionable environmental benefit?

It was estimated in 1978 that, at any given time, a third of the lorries on the roads are travelling empty, at a total cost to the nation of £400 million per annum. If, by a rationalization of freight distribution, the Government could reduce the amount of empty running by only 10 per cent, this would achieve a similar order of saving, while reducing the total volume of lorry traffic.

Yours sincerely,
ALAN C. MCKINNON,
Department of Geography,
The University, Leicester,
December 2.

Cuckoo revisited

From Mr H. D. A. Butcher

Sir, The letter in *The Times* last Saturday from the member of Parliament for Staffordshire South West and others, about Hampstead Heath in general, and Wintanurst in particular, rang a bell in my head. Had I read it all before?

By a strange coincidence I then picked up the second edition of *The First Cuckoo* (Being letters to *The Times*) and, opening it fortuitously at page 282, read a letter of February 17, 1971, from Yehudi Menuhin on the same subject.

I hope, *deo volente*, and expect to read another such letter in 1991.

Yours truly,
H. D. A. BUTCHER,
26 Talbot Road,
Lyne Regis,
Dorset.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 4: The Queen was represented by Malcolm Innes of Edinburg (Lord Lyon King of Arms) at the funeral of Sir James Montagu Grant (formerly Lord Lyon King of Arms), which was held at Westminster Cathedral, Edinburgh, this afternoon.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
December 4: The Duke of Kent, as Chancellor, today presided at the Ceremony for the Conferment of High Degrees at the University of Surrey.
Lieutenant-Commander Richard Buckley, RN, was in attendance.

The Duke of Gloucester, patron of the Trust for the North-East, will present 1981 enterprise awards to Durham Cathedral and visit Mill Museum and the Department of Archaeology, Durham, on December 7.

The Duke of Gloucester will

Birthdays



Mr Dave Brubeck, the jazz musician, who is 61 tomorrow.

TODAY: Lord Chalfont, 62; Miss Lucie Clayton, 62; William Downward, 63; Miss Enid M. Essame, 75; Major-General H. R. E. Fooks, VC, 77; Mr Justice Foster, 68; the Earl of Sutherland, 68; Lord Matthews, 62; Lord Nathan, 59; Mr Otto Preminger, 75; Lord Rotherwick, 69; Mr Jeremy Sandford, 47; Dame Mary Smiley, 70.

TOMORROW: Mr Jack Ashley, CH, MP, 59; Mr Marshall Sir John Curran, 57; the Earl of Darnley, 61; Sir Denis Hamilton, 63; Mr Derek Hill, 65; Mr R. E. Lloyd, 53; Sir William Keswick, 73; the Right Hon. E. C. Rieu, 64; Professor Sir George Porter, 61; Mr J. D. Trustram, 54; Dr B. Thwaites, 53; Mr C. Washbrook, 67.

25 Years Ago

From The Times of Tuesday December 4 1956

Allied forces to leave "without delay"

Westminster, Monday. — Immediately after the Foreign Secretary had announced to the Commons today that the French and British Governments had come to the conclusion that the withdrawal of their forces from the Port Said area could now be carried

present the Royal Association for the Disabled and Rehabilitation third "Building for the Disabled Award", Royal Institute of British Architects, London, on December 8.

The Duke of Gloucester will open the postgraduate medical centre, the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and the Queen's School, Walsley, and attend the Birmingham County Scout Gang Show, the Hippodrome, Birmingham, on December 8.

The Duke of Gloucester will open the International Round Table for the Advancement of Counselling, international consultation on career guidance in higher education, Robinson College, Cambridge, on December 14.

The Duke of Gloucester, as Grand Prior, the Order of St John, will hold a reception and investiture of Knights and Dames at St James's Palace, London, on December 16.

Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester will attend a court luncheon given by the Gardeners' Company at Savile Club, Brook Street, London, on December 18.

Princess Alexandra will visit the International Domestic Electrical Appliances Trade Fair at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, on January 13.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr S. J. Dearman and Miss C. C. Smith
The engagement is announced between Mr S. J. Dearman, of Mrs J. Dearman, of St Albans, and Camilla, daughter of Mr and Mrs C. T. Smith, of Redbourne.

Mr D. E. Keeling and Miss C. C. M. Stern

The forthcoming marriage is announced between Mr D. E. Keeling, fifth son of Mr and Mrs M. Keeling, of Sedlescombe, East Sussex, and Camilla Clara Maria, youngest daughter of Professor and Mrs J. P. Stern, of Cambridge.

Marriage

Mr D. M. Green and Miss L. J. Prior-Palmer
The marriage took place yesterday at the Church of St Mary and St Nicholas, Wilton, Wiltshire, between Mr D. M. Green, younger son of Mr and Mrs Barry Green, of Brisbane, Queensland, and Lucinda Prior-Palmer, daughter of the late Major-General Sir D. Prior-Palmer and of Lady Doreen Prior-Palmer, of Applesham, Hampshire. The Rev. I. J. Lewis and the Rev. I. Tomlinson officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her brother, Mr Simon Prior-Palmer, wore a gown of white embroidered tulle and she carried a bouquet of white tulips. Mrs. Maxwell, bridesmaid, and Mr and Mrs Nicholas Lee were best men.

A reception was held at Wilton House and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

out without delay, the Opposition released a great noise of exultation, irony, and mockery. It drowned any faint sound of applause which may have escaped the grave and anxious ranks opposite. Whatever emotions possessed the Conservative ranks, only one or two gave words to them, but they had a bitter sting of disillusionment. Mr Julian Amery called it a "humiliating withdrawal", and commented on the part played by the United States, the Opposition, and a small handful of Conservatives in bringing us to it.

The fidelities of Pope John XXIII

Angelo Roncalli, the future Pope John XXIII, was born on November 25, a hundred years ago in the village of Sotto il Monte, not far from Bergamo. He was baptized the same day. He died on June 3, 1963, mourned by the whole world.

For most of his 81 years he kept a diary, posthumously published as the *Journal of a Soul*. It is the detailed record of his spiritual ups and downs. It reveals his Counter-Reformation piety. An American author has recently told us to ignore it, because it throws no light on "his anarchic approach to much of the Church's tradition." It would be difficult to devise a more crass statement. It makes Roncalli unintelligible. Of course he developed in the course of his long life. But the development was organic, and hints of what was to come can be found in his very early writings.

On April 29, 1903, he has an entry in his diary about the visit of King Edward VII to the aged Pope Leo XIII. He moralises in the way of his imagination takes wing. He expresses his delight that this Protestant king should overcome anti-clerical prejudice and visit the Vatican. Then he writes: "It is a sign of the times that after a night of such storms, we see the new dawn rising for the Vatican."

The phrase "sign of the times" may have been used accidentally. But it was to become the key to his pontificate. It recalled the saying of Jesus in Luke's

Gospel: "You know how to read the signs of the times" (12:56).

It was this approach that allowed Pope John to regard what was happening in the world — its trends and tendencies — as a message from the Holy Spirit. It meant that the Holy Spirit could be opened up to the new, the unexpected, the surprising.

A second attitude of John XXIII which had deep roots was his sense that, as he told the Second Vatican Council, "history will be our guide." On December 4, 1907 he gave a lecture on Cardinal Cesare Baronius. He regarded this Oratorian scholar as one of the founders of modern history.

The lecture was interesting because of its timing. It was the third centenary of Baronius's death; but it came only three months after the encyclical *Pascendi* had first invented and then denounced a neo-scholastic theological school called "Modernism". A grim witch-hunt was already under way. Yet Roncalli, in his lecture, defends "historical criticism" and speaks without hesitation of "the wonderful progress that has been made in scientific history in the last few years". This sort of remark could have been made by a powerful Roman cardinal. He always knew that those who had history are condemned to repeat its mistakes.

Roncalli had again from an early date, a keen sense of "contemporaneity": there was a proper way of doing things. The way things were done after 1907, displaced

him. His last comment on Pope Pius X was: "Let him be remembered for his worries and his own remarkable piety." St. Pius (he was canonized in 1954) was particularly worried about the "apostolic visitations" in which an inquisitor would descend upon a diocese, install himself comfortably in the seminary, and interrogate the teaching staff.

If such "apostolic visitations" (as Cardinal Carlo Ferrari, of Milan, called them) were the wrong way to set about reform, what was the right way? Roncalli found the answer close at hand. His own Bishop, Ruffini, held a Synod in the diocese of Bergamo. And Ferrari put in his way historical documents about how St. Charles Borromeo had reformed the archdiocese of Milan after the Council of Trent. Episcopal visitations were his answer. When Roncalli, for the first time in his life, acquired a diocese and became Patriarch of Venice (that was in 1954), and one of his early acts was to hold a Synod. He took the same approach on arriving in Rome. The Roman Synod was rather unsuccessful. But of course, the difference now was that "contemporaneity" as applied to the whole Church meant summoning a Council.

His long experience with the Orthodox Churches — ten years in Bulgaria and nine in Turkey and Greece — confirmed him in this view that Church leaders should admit that they are far less

important in the Church than the Holy Spirit. On Whit Sunday, 1944, for example, he preached a most remarkable sermon in Istanbul on the Holy Spirit in the Church. 1944 was not a year when there were many gleams of sunlight on the horizon. Nevertheless he spoke of his dream of a "New Pentecost" in which the Spirit would animate and energize all levels of the Church. He later applied the term "New Pentecost" to the Council he called.

Two conclusions of some importance follow. Pope John knew what he was doing. He was far from being the naive, holy rustic some have imagined him to be. He had a plan — not a blue-print worked out in advance, but a plan. Second, the ideas he tried to realize in his papacy had deep roots in the North Italian tradition of sound scholarship and Christian social commitment.

No one, however, could claim that he was a great thinker. For the most part his thinking was done through metaphors — and was none the worse for that. On the death of Pope Pius XII he wrote in his diary: "One of my favourite phrases brings me great comfort: we are not on earth as museum-keepers but as cultivators of a flourishing garden of life and to prepare a glorious future." All his metaphors were metaphors of growth, of letting be, of leaving room for the Holy Spirit. That may explain why he was so much loved.

Peter Hebblethwaite

Service dinners

The Wessex Regiment
A supper party for past and present members of the Wessex Regiment (Volunteers) and the 2nd Battalion (Volunteers) was held at Wyndham Hotel, Bournemouth, on Tuesday, December 1. Major-General J. C. A. Gilbert and Brigadier J. F. Oldfield, Honorary Colonels, attended.

Honourable Artillery Company

Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Morphey, Vice-Chief of the General Staff, and Mr. John Keegan were the guests of the Honourable Artillery Company Mess Club at dinner at Armoury House, Whitehall, on Tuesday, December 1. Major-General J. C. A. Gilbert and Brigadier J. F. Oldfield, Honorary Colonels, attended.

Exeter Flatlands

The annual ladies' guest dinner of Exeter Flatlands was held last night at the Commando Training Centre, Royal Marines, Lynton. The guests included Mrs. Admiral Sir John Keegan, Chairman of the Flatlands, and Mrs. Michael Booker, president of the society, also present.

Latest wills

Miss Enid Frances Anne Stuart, of Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire, left an estate valued at £245,337 net. After a personal bequest she left the rest of her estate to the Gloucestershire Association for the Disabled.

Other estates include (net): Mr. Robert James, of London, £1,000; Mr. Leonard, of Farnham, Surrey, £253,343; Cooper, Mr. Hugh Graham, of London, £377,300 net.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

ALL PAIR BUREAU Piccadilly Ltd. World's largest and best known agency for all domestic and catering situations. 100, Strand, W.C.2R. Tel. 01-222 2222.

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PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

IN PARLIAMENT
SESSION 1981-82
THE HOUSE OF COMMONS
(HOUSE OF COMMONS)
NOTICE is hereby given that the Bill for the purpose of amending the law relating to the House of Commons will be introduced on Tuesday, December 8, 1981.

Services tomorrow: Second Sunday in Advent

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, 10.30 AM. The Rev. Canon J. H. Smith, Rector, will officiate. The choir will sing "The Mass" by J. H. Smith. The organ will play "The Mass" by J. H. Smith.

ST. MARK'S CHURCH, 10.30 AM. The Rev. Canon J. H. Smith, Rector, will officiate. The choir will sing "The Mass" by J. H. Smith. The organ will play "The Mass" by J. H. Smith.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, 10.30 AM. The Rev. Canon J. H. Smith, Rector, will officiate. The choir will sing "The Mass" by J. H. Smith. The organ will play "The Mass" by J. H. Smith.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, 10.30 AM. The Rev. Canon J. H. Smith, Rector, will officiate. The choir will sing "The Mass" by J. H. Smith. The organ will play "The Mass" by J. H. Smith.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, 10.30 AM. The Rev. Canon J. H. Smith, Rector, will officiate. The choir will sing "The Mass" by J. H. Smith. The organ will play "The Mass" by J. H. Smith.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, 10.30 AM. The Rev. Canon J. H. Smith, Rector, will officiate. The choir will sing "The Mass" by J. H. Smith. The organ will play "The Mass" by J. H. Smith.

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, 10.30 AM. The Rev. Canon J. H. Smith, Rector, will officiate. The choir will sing "The Mass" by J. H. Smith. The organ will play "The Mass" by J. H. Smith.

ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH, 10.30 AM. The Rev. Canon J. H. Smith, Rector, will officiate. The choir will sing "The Mass" by J. H. Smith. The organ will play "The Mass" by J. H. Smith.

ST. ROSEMARY CHURCH, 10.30 AM. The Rev. Canon J. H. Smith, Rector, will officiate. The choir will sing "The Mass" by J. H. Smith. The organ will play "The Mass" by J. H. Smith.

ST. VINCENT CHURCH, 10.30 AM. The Rev. Canon J. H. Smith, Rector, will officiate. The choir will sing "The Mass" by J. H. Smith. The organ will play "The Mass" by J. H. Smith.

ST. EDWARD CHURCH, 10.30 AM. The Rev. Canon J. H. Smith, Rector, will officiate. The choir will sing "The Mass" by J. H. Smith. The organ will play "The Mass" by J. H. Smith.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, 10.30 AM. The Rev. Canon J. H. Smith, Rector, will officiate. The choir will sing "The Mass" by J. H. Smith. The organ will play "The Mass" by J. H. Smith.

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Saturday Review

From formerly secret documents in War Cabinet and Admiralty records the historian Martin Gilbert, biographer of Sir Winston Churchill, reconstructs the plotting and chance that in a few days of December 1941 visited disaster on Britain and America, and yet assured their ultimate victory

For the President of the United States the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor was "a day that will live in infamy." For the British Prime Minister that same attack was "the greatest joy." After more than two years of American neutrality Britain at last had America as an ally. "We had won the war," Churchill later reflected. "We should not be wiped out. Our history would not come to an end."

Yet for the two previous years Britain had been alone and vulnerable. The Germans, aware of Britain's weakness in the Far East, had pressed the Japanese, since the beginning of 1941, to attack Singapore, and to drive the British from Malaya. To counter any such threat would involve sending a strong naval force to the eastern oceans. But to do this, Winston Churchill told Franklin Roosevelt, would weaken Britain's naval strength nearer home, "courting disaster" in the Mediterranean and Atlantic.

On June 22, 1941 Hitler invaded the Soviet Union, and a month later the United States imposed economic sanctions on Japan, as a protest against the Japanese occupation of French Indo-China. In August the Japanese proposed a general settlement between themselves and the United States. There would be no further Japanese advance into South-East Asia, and French Indo-China would be evacuated; in return America would recognize Japanese predominance in China.

Although these terms were unacceptable, they did give America time, as Churchill explained to Anthony Eden, to "procure a moratorium of, say, thirty days" in which Britain could "improve" her position in the Singapore area, while the Japanese will have to stand still. At the same time a stern message to Japan, drafted by Churchill himself, was sent by Roosevelt to the Japanese Ambassador in Washington.

This message constituted an important secret step on the way to an American commitment. "Any further encroachment by Japan in the South-West Pacific," the message warned, "would produce a situation in which the United States Government would be compelled to take counter measures, even though these might lead to war between the United States and Japan."

America's warning to Japan was, Churchill told Eden, "a very great advance towards the gripping of Japanese aggression by the united forces." But in the view of the Dominion Prime Ministers, some British naval activity was also needed, if Japan were to be deterred from attacking Singapore and Malaya. In August the British Prime Minister made an urgent appeal from Australia for the early despatch of five capital ships, to be sent East of Suez, and to act as "the most powerful deterrent" in the building up of naval reinforcements in the event of war.

The Australian premier also wanted Britain to declare war on Japan should Japanese forces attack the independent state of Siam. But everything that Churchill when they met to discuss the Atlantic Charter confirmed that American neutrality was still the policy for the foreseeable future.

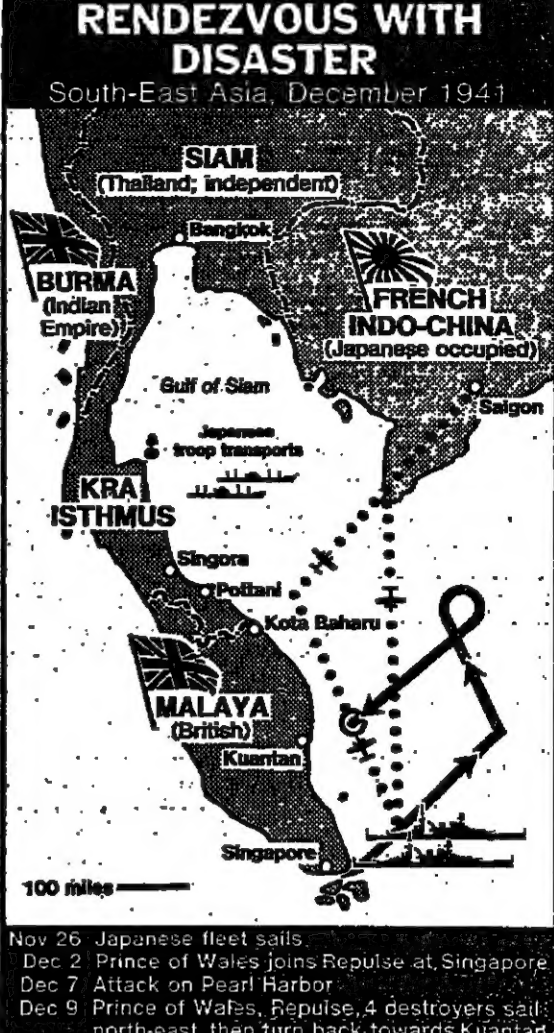
The conclusion which Churchill drew was a sombre one. "He sometimes wondered," the War Cabinet minutes recorded, "whether the President realized the risk which the United States were running by keeping out of the war. If Germany beat Russia to a standstill, the United States made no further advance towards entry into the war, there was a great danger that the war might take a turn against us." It seemed to Churchill that one way to encourage greater American involvement in the Far East was to put into operation the naval deterrent plan. The Minister had proposed, hoping that, with Roosevelt's warning, this would prevent any Japanese aggression for at least three months: then, in the event of war, there would be the nucleus of a naval force. In the Admiralty's view, how-



COPI. MESSAGE. 0615Z/10th Dec.
Addressed ADMIRALTY. From CHIEF OF STAFF, EASTERN FLEET.
MOST IMMEDIATE.
H.M.S. PRINCE OF WALES and H.M.S. REPULSE
sunk by torpedoes at about 1317
G R/10
In position 00° 30' North
140° 30' East.



Far left: Churchill waves farewell in August 1941 to the men of the Prince of Wales (35,000 tons) completed only at the end of March. He had been on board for talks with Roosevelt. Left below: the same men scramble over the battleship's side as she sinks off Malaya in December. Of 1,612 as many as 1,285 were saved. Left above: Captain Tennant and Canon Bezzant, chaplain, rescued from the Repulse (33,250 tons, launched 1916). Of 1,309 on board, 796 were saved. In the cable (centre) informing the Admiralty of the loss, the degrees of longitude should be 104. (Reproduced by permission of Controller H.M. Stationery Office).



American fleet". No decision reached, except to "reconsider the problem in the morning light." By morning light it was too late. At Singapore, Phillips had already decided on action, and set off northwards. As his two battleships, together with their four destroyers, steamed northwards towards the Siamese ports the weather cleared. At that moment a Japanese spotter aircraft located them. Phillips at once decided that the risk was unacceptable, and abandoned the operation, setting course at high speed southwards for Singapore.

But that midnight, as the Prince of Wales steamed south, Phillips received a signal from Singapore that Japanese forces had landed half-way down the Malayan coast, at Kuantan. He at once decided to attack them. His reasoning was recalled six weeks later by his senior surviving staff officer. First, Kuantan lay four hundred miles from the Japanese airfields in Indo-China. Second, Kuantan was "a key military position which every effort must be made to defend." Third, the Japanese spotter aircraft had last located his ship in the latitude of Singapore, steaming northwards. The Japanese would not therefore expect his force to be so far south. Surprise at Kuantan was thus probable, and the risk, in his view, justified.

By one in the morning of December 10 Phillips had turned his ships towards Kuantan. Soon after daylight, however, one of his force's destroyers, the Express, which had gone ahead, reached the harbour, found no sign of the Japanese, and rejoined the admiral. Kuantan being still in British hands, Phillips prepared to continue his southward course to Singapore.

But before he did so, at seven o'clock that morning, time was spent searching for some bays, barges and junks in convoy which had been sighted earlier. Thinking that these might be motor landing-craft intended for a landing at Kuantan, Captain Tennant of the Repulse decided to examine them. Phillips agreed. Simultaneously, an aircraft was sighted, but it was not identified as either enemy or friendly. Four hours later, at ten to eleven, the Repulse radar picked up aircraft on its screen, and ten minutes later these same aircraft came into sight: eighty-four Japanese bombers in all.

This large air fleet had already flown as far south as Singapore in search of the two British battleships. Having sighted nothing, it was returning to its base in Indo-China on a northerly course. Entirely by chance, its pre-arranged flight path led the force straight over its quarry. The first bombs fell shortly after eleven in the morning, when the Repulse broke radio silence to inform Singapore of the attack.

The Japanese bombers attacked in wave after wave for an hour and a half. At 12.35 pm the Repulse turned over and sank. The Prince of Wales capsized and sank at 1.20 pm. Six hundred officers and men were drowned, including Phillips and Leach. More than two thousand sailors were rescued by the four destroyers.

Fighter aircraft, sent from Singapore as a result of the message from the Repulse, reached the scene only in time to witness the Prince of Wales go under. When the news of the sinking of the two battleships reached London, Churchill was in bed working on official papers. He was told the news over the telephone. "I was thankful to be alone," he later recalled. "In all the war I never received a more direct shock."

And yet, with the United States at last in the war, and with both Germany and Italy having declared war on her, even disaster seemed quickly to fall into a less tragic perspective, and on December 12 Churchill telegraphed to Roosevelt: "I am enormously relieved at the turn world events have taken." Not only relief, but hope; for, as Churchill told Eden, America's entry into the war "makes amends for all, and with time and patience will give certain victory."

The day they sank the deterrent

by Martin Gilbert

ever, the proposed naval force would be too great a hostage to fortune, and after considering the proposal "most carefully," the First Sea Lord, "I cannot recommend it". Churchill deferred to the Admiralty's judgment. In mid-September a Joint Intelligence Committee assessment of the situation in the Far East concluded that Japan was apparently making offensive preparations against Russia. The Committee felt that Japan would not risk war against the United States and Great Britain by attacking Malaya, at least until Russia had been so weakened by Germany as to be compelled to reduce her Far East forces below their existing level. Which way would Japan turn, and when? "This Japanese situation is definitely worse," Roosevelt warned Churchill on October 15. "I think they are headed North."

Further news on the following day seemed to bring some Japanese action suddenly much nearer, for it was learned that same evening that in Tokyo the moderate Komei Cabinet had resigned. This news, Eden's private secretary, Oliver Harvey, noted in his diary, "seems to portend a forward movement by Japanese extremists". Where, he asked would they strike, "North against Vladivostok or South against Siam"? Neither British nor American territory seemed as yet directly threatened. But Britain, Harvey noted, was "considering 'despatch of a capital ship' to the Far East. 'That would make a difference'."

Anthony Eden had indeed revived Churchill's earlier idea of sending two British battleships to the Far East as an immediate deterrent force. At the same time, the Australian Government now asked for an assurance that this force included "modern units". At the Defence Committee meeting on October 17, where Eden's proposal was discussed, it was Churchill who raised the question of sending the battleship Prince of Wales to the Far East, to join the Repulse, which was already in Singapore.

Three days later, at a further meeting of the Defence Committee, despite Dudley Pound's continuing hesitation, the Committee decided "that the importance of the early arrival of one of our latest battleships in Far Eastern waters outweighed the reasons put forward by the First Sea Lord for retaining all these King George V Class in Atlantic waters". According to the Defence Committee, Pound's reasons had been outweighed because it was hoped that the presence of the Prince of Wales and the Repulse at Singapore "would act as a deterrent to Japan and avert war". If however the Japanese were in fact "on the point of taking the plunge", it was hoped

by the Defence Committee that the battleships' presence would prevent them "from sending their expeditionary force to the southward" against Malaya. Although the Japanese would be able to bring down "a superior force", it was also felt "that the containing power of the strong American fleet at Hawaii would restrain them from any major venture into the Gulf of Siam". The die was cast, and the Prince of Wales, prepared to steam eastward. Even as she crossed the Indian Ocean, on November 26 a Japanese naval force set off through fog and gales, from the Kurile Islands, north of Japan, its target the Pearl Harbor naval base at Hawaii.

Three days later the Chiefs of Staff Committee met in London. Intelligence reports confirmed a high state of Japanese military, naval and air alert, but gave no indication of where any attack might come. Indeed, it was still thought by those who studied these reports that Russia would be the principal, and perhaps the sole object of Japan's attack.

Hitler's forces were now within striking distance of Russia's main oil fields. Russia was thus a tempting target for Japan. But the intelligence observers also saw, to the south, a second possible target, the independent state of Siam, which, if conquered, would then pose a direct threat to the British in Malaya and Singapore.

Even as Admiral Tom Phillips, Commander-in-Chief of the new Far Eastern force, approached Singapore in the Prince of Wales,

the danger signals intensified. On December 1 the Admiralty signalled Phillips that on his arrival he might send either the Prince of Wales or the Repulse "away from Singapore to disconcert the Japanese." The deterrent aspect was thus still the dominant factor.

Two days later, however, when the presence of Japanese submarines was reported in the area, the Admiralty signalled Phillips that he should request U.S. destroyers in the region to be sent to Singapore, and that he himself should get both the Prince of Wales and the Repulse "away from Singapore to the eastward."

Unfortunately, Phillips was unable to carry out this immediate dash for safety, as the Prince of Wales had been taken in hand for essential repairs for seven days, and needed three full days' notice before being ready to sail.

On December 6, as the Prince of Wales prepared finally to sail, Japanese naval troop movements were reported that indicated a possible Japanese expedition southwards towards the Kra Peninsula of Siam, on the northern border of Malaya. From the position of the transports, however, it was not possible, General Alan Brooke noted in his diary, "to tell whether they were going to Bangkok, to the Kra Peninsula, or whether they were just cruising round as a bluff."

On December 7 the three Chiefs of Staff (Pound, Portal and Alan Brooke), meeting in London, informed Churchill at Chequers that Britain was prepared to "fire the first shot" on

any such Japanese expedition against Siam, "before it reached its objectives." She would only do so, however, provided Britain could be assured of American armed support, and also if British attack would not be represented by isolationists in the United States as a deliberate attempt "to drag them into a British war."

That morning (British time) it was learned in London that Roosevelt would definitely regard it as a hostile act to the United States if Japan were to invade Malaya, Burma, the Dutch East Indies, or even Siam. This new American commitment was to be announced publicly by Roosevelt on Wednesday, December 10. "This is an immense relief," Churchill telegraphed to General Auchinleck on December 7. "As I had long dreaded being at war with Japan without or before the United States."

Even while this telegram was being sent, Japanese ships and aircraft were continuing their crossing of the Pacific on the final leg of their attack on the American fleet at Pearl Harbor, that same "strong American fleet at Hawaii" which the British War Cabinet had so recently believed would deter the Japanese from any attack on British or Dutch possessions, or on Siam.

Early on the morning of December 7, Pacific time (early evening that day in Britain), 360 Japanese aircraft attacked Pearl Harbor, leaving in their wake more than two thousand American dead.

At nine o'clock that evening, Churchill was still at Chequers.



The attack on Pearl Harbor; and Churchill and Roosevelt on board the Prince of Wales.

David Byrne

The many-sided rock musician in the Bowie/Lennon mould, whose ballet music for the Catherine Wheel appears on record this week.

The propped electric guitar, the video machine and the photographic prints strewn over part of the uncarpeted floor barely disturb the symmetry and stillness of David Byrne's apartment. A large grey and white cube on the first floor of what was until recently a factory, it could pass as an annex to one of the countless modern art galleries which surround it in SoHo, Manhattan's downtown, up-market artists' ghetto. Byrne has designed his living space with the understated fastidiousness also apparent in his clothes, which are dark and quiet, and his speech, which is punctuated by pauses as he searches for the precise response.

Such care ought not to be a surprise. As a former art student working in the field of pop music, Byrne is as prone to self-conceptualization as any member of the surrealists which probably began with John Lennon and has included David Bowie, Pete Townshend, Bryan Ferry and Joe Strummer, all of whom either attended art school or spent their formative years hanging around the fringes



Front line

of that freewheeling world. In Britain, where the collective contribution to the development of rock music has long been acknowledged, they and their peers brought about a fascinating and constructive expansion of available working methods, most notably introducing the modes marked "eclectic" and "ironic".

Byrne is an exception in this company because, although he was born in Dumbarton 29 years ago, he has lived since childhood in America where the art schools have exerted a much smaller influence—mostly, he thinks, because they are financially less accessible to working-class people, which would have disqualified Lennon and Ferry, at least, had they grown up across the Atlantic. So it was natural that Byrne's group, the Talking Heads, whose three original members met at the Rhode Island School of Design, should have received their early recognition in Europe, where their repu-

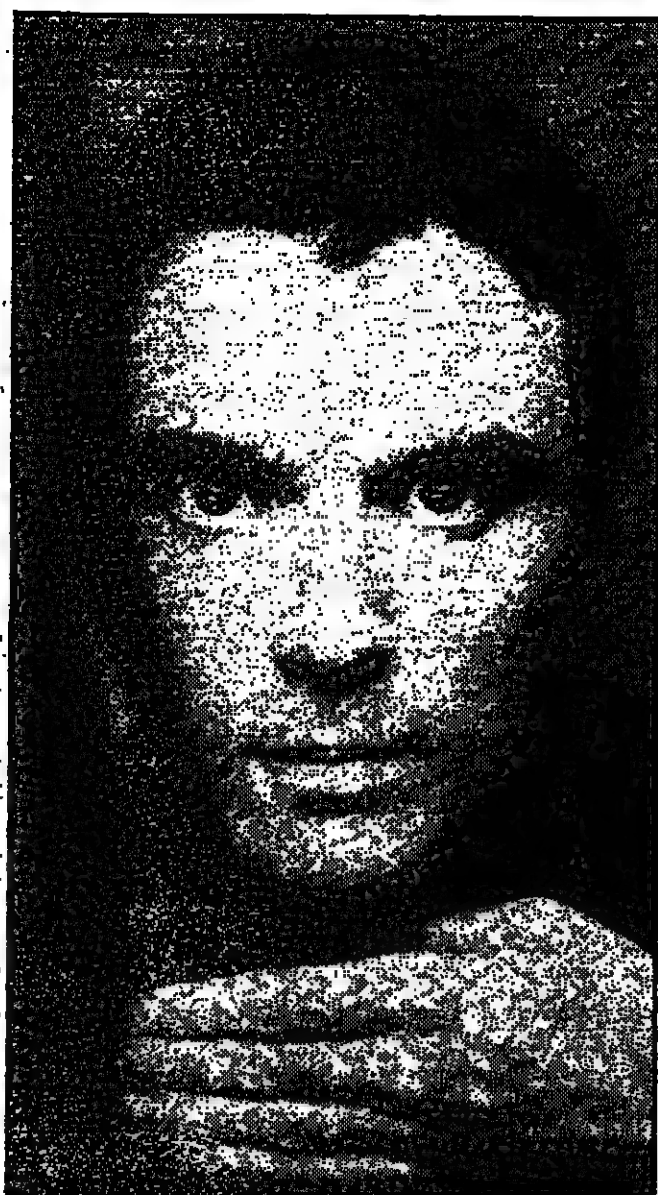
tation has grown steadily since their first visit in 1977. His fine art studies, albeit uncompleted, certainly provided an appropriate background for Byrne's recent collaborations with the English rock theoretician Brian Eno, another former art student, and with the American choreographer Twyla Tharp.

With Byrne Eno's assistance, Tharp steered the Talking Heads away from their rather severe, neurotic stance and into the realms of dance music, adding African and Afro-American rhythms alongside Byrne's oblique but always stimulating lyrics. Together, minus the group, the pair also produced an album called *My Life in the Bush of Ghosts*, a controversial work which placed the "found voices" of preachers, politicians and singers from other cultures within densely layered arrangements featuring electronics and dance rhythms.

Byrne's most ambitious project, however, has been the music for a 75-minute ballet called *The Catherine Wheel* recently given a dozen well-received performances on Broadway by Twyla Tharp's company. An obvious extension of the Byrne/Eno recordings, the music appears this week in edited form on an album and will shortly be available in its entirety on cassette.

Perched on one of Byrne's few pieces of furniture, Twyla Tharp explained that the ballet germinated when her company began rehearsing the Talking Heads, and when Byrne came to see a performance of other work, he noted for its use of popular music (particularly that of the Beach Boys in *Dance Capsule*) but this was the first time that she had been able to commission new music, rather than working with existing records or scores. *The Catherine Wheel* was therefore an expensive proposition, now that it is established as the repertoire, although it may prove too elaborate to perform in next year's British tour—she hopes to recover some of the outlay by making a videotape for lease to television.

Byrne composed and arranged the music, usually alone, at night in the recording studio; by day he presented the work-in-progress to the choreographer, receiving suggestions: "Make it more aggressive and obnoxious here"—that kind of thing. By watching the



steps evolve alongside the music, he was able to make adjustments. "I was thinking about how music and dance could be put together in a collaborative way, rather than starting with one and adding the other," Byrne says. "I studied the way the dancers worked, and in turn Twyla became interested in the process of making the music. She noticed the way the sounds are layered and manipulated by overdubbing, and she was able to incorporate that into the dance by positioning groups of dancers in shadow behind other groups. So one medium affected the other right the way through."

One of four groups who can be said to have invented the New York New wave, Byrne and the middle Seventies (the others were Blondie, the Ramones and Television), the Talking Heads have made calculated but courageous aesthetic leaps whenever their music has seemed in danger of growing stale. The latest took place last year when they recorded and toured with five auxiliary musicians added to the basic quintet. The concerts clearly had a profound effect on Byrne, whose customary anguished stance almost completely disappeared, replaced by a relaxation which even permitted the occasional smile.

"Yes, I was very pleased about that. It had always seemed to me that there was a contradiction between our songs, which were generally about tortured personalities, and our enjoyment of performance. The last tour provided a solution. I felt that the music had broken through. In fact at some performances I felt ecstatic, as if the music had suddenly fallen into place, the pieces locking together, and as if this communicated itself to the audience. After several months spent pursuing individual projects—the drummer Chris Frantz and the bassist Tina Weymouth with their successful Tom Tom Club records, the multi-instrumentalist Jerry Harrison with a solo album—Byrne and the group reunited, preparing an LP of live tapes from various stages of their career. The retrospective nature of this task, Byrne said, will help shape their aesthetic in 1982, but he cannot be more specific than a suggestion that the music will be different, and that it will restore some of the minor losses which have accompanied the big gains in the group's evolution.

Right from the beginning, we've been careful about each step that we've taken," he concluded. "Now it seems as though we're in a position where we can practically do whatever we like. We can make all these different kinds of records, or I can go off and 'make videos' whatever. It seems pretty ideal to me. The only drawback is that there isn't time for everything you want to do."

Richard Williams

Diary quiz

The answers to these questions on the week's news will appear in Monday's Diary

1. Who was named centre forward?
2. What's likely to become a museum piece?
3. A divided meal?
4. Where were the flames of protest fanned?
5. Which bank announced an interesting move this week?
6. The East is Red?
7. Who admitted his theories had been wrong?
8. What will disappear in a puff of smoke?
9. Who predicted a long slow climb ahead?
10. In what context was it said this week that war had achieved more than jaw-jaw?
11. Who asked for extra time?
12. What was the theatrical sale of the century?
13. Who made a cunning move?



I'll be awarding another bottle of champagne to the reader who sends in the best caption to this picture of Princess Margaret, not looking for a job, but visiting a Job Centre in Liverpool last Thursday. Entries, on a postcard please, to Peter Watson, Times Diary, PO Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EX to arrive not later than first post on Thursday.

Robots are not the turn on we're always told, at least not for our readers. So from a much smaller post-bag this week I've chosen R. Marston of Nottingham as runner-up with "Yes Minister, you'll be quite safe at Sussex University like that" and J. Birks of Darenth, Kent, as winner with "Take me to your ladder!"

New York/John Heilpern

Great acting, pity about the play

This week, there are three major Broadway openings representing the essential ingredients of any and every Broadway season. Namely, the star vehicle—the all-American million-dollar musical—and what might be called the class act, which is the inevitable Pulitzer Prize winning play.

The appearance of Katharine Hepburn in *The West Side Waltz*, the star vehicle written by Ernest Thompson, is no different in its way to the appearance of Elizabeth Taylor in *Little Foxes* or to Claudette Colbert, still going strong, in *A Talent for Murder*. On such occasions, the public does not go to see the play but to worship the legend around whom the entire proceedings are built. The play itself is the last thing to worry about.

As with almost all star vehicles, the only test is how the star manages to rise above the material. In Katharine Hepburn's case, miraculously. "Possibly the most dishonest, stupid and insufferable play it has been my misfortune to sit through," wrote one New York critic of *The West Side Waltz* and, although impolite, he was right. Without exception, every New York critic roundly clobbered the author while praising Miss Hepburn to the skies. There's the message: the baser the material, the higher the star also rises.

Miss Hepburn plays a partially deaf and ultimately crippled pianist named, if you please, Margaret Mary Wright. Margaret Mary Elderidge also plays the piano of an evening accompanied by her lonely spinster neighbour, an amateur violinist, who is named Vera Varnum. They mime their way through at least two dozen scenes, Miss Hepburn has to repeat exactly the same curtain line, which is: "Now we're cooking!"

Mr. Thompson, who also wrote *On Golden Pond*, another burnt offering concerning the sentimentalized problems of old age (soon to be released as a film with Hepburn and Henry Fonda), here tries even to contain his star physically—and fails. Miss Hepburn progresses zestfully through each scene, first with a limp, then with a cane, then two canes, next with a walker, and finally in a wheelchair in which she zooms around the stage, giving the impression she would prefer to be on rollerskates.

Nothing will stop her—not Mr. Thompson's sexual innuendos or his tasteless jokes about gays and flashers—his stab at wit: "Are you a

communist?" "No, I'm a Libra." Or indeed his mighty thoughts about life: "Human beings are not meant to be alone." "If you want something in life you have to go out and get it," etc.

No, Miss Hepburn rises above all this silliness because there is just enough in the highly independent, indomitable old character she plays to remind the audience of Miss Hepburn herself. It is what Brendan Gill calls "a feat of surgico-dramaturgic cloning," her role is an approximate clone of Miss Hepburn's outspoken, beautiful, 72-year-old Yankee self. It is the secret of the star vehicle, and of course Miss Hepburn knows this. She plays herself, regardless.

Mr. James M. Nederlander, one of the two most powerful theatre owners and producers in America—the other is the Shubert Organization—gave his philosophy of mounting Broadway shows the other day. "Being a theatre owner means you're really in the moving business," he said. "You move 'em in, you move 'em out..."

So it was that Mr. Nederlander, like the wagon train leaders of old, yelled "move 'em out" to the cast of the new Hal Prince-Stephen Sondheim musical, *Merrily We Roll Along*. After two opening night postponements, a change of leading man, a new choreographer, and last-minute re-writes and songs, this troubled \$1,500,000 show closed after 16 performances. The golden rule of Prince and Sondheim (a *Little Night Music*, Sweeney

Todd, Company) produced a dud. *Merrily We Roll Along* was loosely based on a Broadway curiosity piece, the 1934 Kaufman-Hart play of the same name, (which was its first mistake). The gimmick is that the story is told backwards—like Harold Pinter's *Betrayal*—in this case from 1980 to 1955: people were glancing at their programmes muttering, "Thank God, only 15 years to go!"

The story (book by George Furth) was all too familiar. A successful man—a composer—looks back on his life to discover that success and riches are empty, and wonders what happened to the good old idealistic days of youth when fame didn't mean anything—"not much it didn't"—when everyone loved each other and believed in what? Success of course. Perhaps the immensely successful Prince and Sondheim are trying to tell us something about themselves, though they have said it all before in *Follies*, which had an identical theme to *Merrily We Roll Along*.

It is the central conception of their latest musical that was so surprisingly ill-conceived. The young cast actually remains young throughout the entire 25-year span of the plot. They wear T-shirts labelled "ex-wife", "ex-wife" and "ex-wife", like Victorian emblems. Not a single character changes or develops for there was no characterization save the obvious showbiz clichés. Cute at 45—cute at 20. There was no feel for the

period or awareness of changing social contents. The action took place in a kind of no-man's land. The seventies looked and sounded the same as the fifties.

The skimpy high-tech set appeared to be borrowed from another Prince-Sondheim musical, *Company*. The choreography, by Larry Fuller, was negligible. There was not one imaginative piece of staging from Hal Prince, who again repeated his familiar closely packed groupings from *Evita*. Mr. Sondheim, incidentally, for him, failed to produce even one memorable song. Like Mr. Prince, it seems that he has begun to imitate himself. In what has been a disappointing season for Broadway, *Merrily We Roll Along* came as the biggest shock so far. It is left to Michael Bennett (of *A Chorus Line*) to pick up the flag with his new musical, *Dream Girls*, opening and eagerly awaited on Broadway at Christmas. If it is about the pain of success and wealth all we ordinary folk can do is take a deep breath, repeat "now we're cooking!" six times, and try to cope with our humble lives as best we can.

Finally, and briefly, *Both Henry's* Pulitzer Prize-winning play, *Crimes of the Heart*, is a genuine Broadway success and much admired. Furthermore, it is the 29-year-old Ms. Henley's first play.

Set in the South, where she was born and raised, her black comedy grows out of the grotesque Southern humour tradition of Eudora Welty and Flannery O'Connor. I regret I left me mostly cold. Accompanied by several British actors enjoying a day off from Broadway, I assumed that because we all shared the same bewilderment, we were suffering from a serious culture gap.

Where the critics saw high seriousness underlying Miss Henley's bizarre play, I could not see it. When they talked of her comedy "heightening reality to the point of a landscape of human existence in all its mean absurdity," I saw unbelievable "characters" whose lives were a mere farce. I could see only Southern "types", like a cartoon.

But alone among the major New York critics, Walter Kerr, the doyen of them all, later offered the one dissenting opinion. While he admired the actresses involved, he wrote that "I also found myself, rather too often and in spite of every thing, disbelieving, simply and flatly disbelieving". At which I found myself, in the context of Miss Henley's otherwise acclaimed play, simply and flatly relieved.



Katharine Hepburn: ebullient geriatric

Opera/John Higgins

Time for pantomime

The Bartered Bride
Palace Theatre, Manchester

Up, up and away in a beautiful balloon is not the usual sight at the end of Smetana's *The Bartered Bride*. But this they go in Steven Pimlott's production for Opera North, which has just opened in Manchester after a preview in Hull. Presumably he has one eye on that Christmas season fast approaching and *The Bride* has never been short of pantomime elements.

The highlight of the last act is certainly the arrival of the circus in town, by that same, hallooed, hoofed and Manchester with knife-throwers, fire-eaters and Smetana's American bear (*amerikanský medvěd*), presumably less

often encountered in Bohemia than the Russian species. And there is of course the pantomime figure if ever there was one, who threw him out of the house to get the minimal plot rolling.

Steven Pimlott's production is bright, brash and busy. He has his characters making omelettes and tackling the washing up when they are not involved in one of those marvelously invigorating dances Smetana composed in honour of the Czech Saint's Day when it all takes place.

Stefanos Lazaridis has devised an equally bright set, more imaginative than brash, of a village square surrounded by houses with wooden, shingled roofs, not unlike the designs for the earliest recorded productions of *The Bride*. Two interiors, as realistically cluttered as a

Moscow Arts Theatre staging of Chekhov, slide on and off the stage. It is all very evocative, although it does inhibit the dancing, which anyhow could do with a bit more attention, particularly the *Furiant*.

Opera North field two strong tenors as the half-brothers Jeník and Vasek. Arthur Davies's Jeník has a good sheen to the top of his voice, particularly in the Act II aria when all the hustle on stage is stilled for a moment. Justin Lavender turns in a sharp characterization of the stuttering, stumpy Vasek, one of Smetana's less agreeable portraits; he has been doing a lot of cover work for Opera North, but on this showing he will be moving up shortly to the number one spot. Eric Barrett's Kecal is too rough at the moment, dry of voice and poor of diction; the late Howell Glynn was a master of this role, putting a taste of

viciousness into the marriage broker who would sell anything for a few crowns. A chance missed in introducing a villain into the panto.

Marie Sklenka plays up the mix in Smetana. She takes a little time to adjust her soprano to the house, as she did at the Wexford Festival a few weeks back, but like her Jeník she took her aria excellently when it came.

Opera North's orchestra sounds much better than when I last heard it. David Lloyd-Jones's conducting is strong on vigour and attack, light on humour and the feeling of joy bubbling over which turned *The Bartered Bride* from an opera into a Czech national symbol.

Steven Pimlott's travelling circus plays in Manchester on December 9 and 11 and then moves into the repertory for the Christmas season at the Grand, Leeds.

Theatre/Ned Chaillet

Immortal Children

Railway Children
Haymarket, Basingstoke

Children are interchangeable, and the traditions of the stage and Actor's Equity. That means that on the night I saw the show, the railway children went by the names of Alison Desbois, Keres Dingwall, and Nicholas Irons.

On alternating nights they are called Rebecca Bridge, Caitlin Chidey, and William Keen. E. Nesbit called them Bobbie (for Roberta), Phyllis and Peter, and bare minutes after introducing them to their happy suburban life, she deprived them of father, sending him to prison and them to the country, where they waved at passing trains.

More than that, they saved one passing train from destruction by waving red pennants to warn the driver before he hit a landslide. In the musical version at the Haymarket Theatre, Basingstoke, they take a fairly original approach by waving and shouting from the far side of the landslide, which would be a marginally safe place to stand.

The truth is, the Haymarket does not offer much in the way of technical facilities to the resident Horseshoe Company and they still achieve some surprisingly

genial effects, including a steaming locomotive that only threatens to knock down the rural station. Geniality is also present in full measure among the adult members of the company, with a singing porter (Keres Bartlett) and hooping engine driver (Nicholas Blane) and an old gentleman (Jack Lynn) who contrived to make rural exile a nicer place while the eldest girl strives to prove her father's innocence.

An old-fashioned story seems to require old-fashioned songs, but those provided by Peter Durrant, with lyrics from the drama—after introducing them to their happy suburban life, she deprived them of father, sending him to prison and them to the country, where they waved at passing trains.

They offer little in the way of character development; rather a kind of restatement of the obvious. Suddenly the father is taken away and Joy Turpin, as the mother, sings songs called "Suddenly". Luckily they are not all as anthropomorphic as the one which promises children they will "make friends in every field and stream".

Tony Craven and Brian Schermer direct the production, which is diverting enough to show the book's attractions and suitability for musical adaptation, but unlike Leicester's *Gypsy*, it is hardly built to last. Firmer musical hands might well turn the story into a holiday staple.

Dance/John Percival

Illuminations

Covent Garden

It is easy to understand how almost all reviewers, including my predecessor in this seat, extol when Frederick Ashton's *Illuminations* was presented given at Covent Garden in 1950. Audiences were not ready then for a ballet that made its points by swift allusions and metaphors, nor for one which shows a poet as anarchist, or a man after prophetic love wiping himself and going to the lavatory. Ashton, ahead of his time, regarded dance as an art form as serious as plays or films, and with as wide a scope.

The Royal Ballet's new production, first given at Covent Garden last night, does full justice to the marvellously imaginative collaboration of Ashton and Cecil Beaton (to whom the revival is dedicated) with Britten's setting of prose poems from *Les Illuminations*. R. N. Rimbault's life provides the key to this wild side-show, as the cardinal phrase in the text puts it. Innocence and corruption, adolescent revolt, and a turbulent inspiration exist, not as opposites, but as simultaneously and miraculously reconciled experiences along his road to earth and immortality.

Ashley Page, who also brings a sinuous and sub-

merged passion to a fine revival of Rimbault's *Afternoon of a Faun* (with the touching rumpled Bryony Brind as his nymphette classmate), he concentrates on the vehemence of the Poet, even when trying to hurl handfuls of stars into the night sky, and lets the beauty speak for itself.

Genesis Rosato's abandon as Profane Love also rivals distant memories of the original cast; and if Jennifer Peoney has not yet found the full serenity implicit in Sacred Love, she moves through the part with calm grace. All praise, also, for the playing of the music under a guest conductor, Robert Irvine, and to Robert Tear's understated, yet vocal line even though perhaps not quite back in full voice.

Full comment on the evening's other premiere, a new production of dances from *Napoli*, staged by Kirsten Raailow from Copenhagen, must wait another occasion. But the dances themselves are welcome back into the repertory, even if some of the dancing lacks the gusto of other recent productions, and the elaborate new setting by Richard Beer are as hideous as they are unnecessary. The casting at least allows the younger dancers a chance for once, and for the sake of *Illuminations* the programme must be seen anyway.

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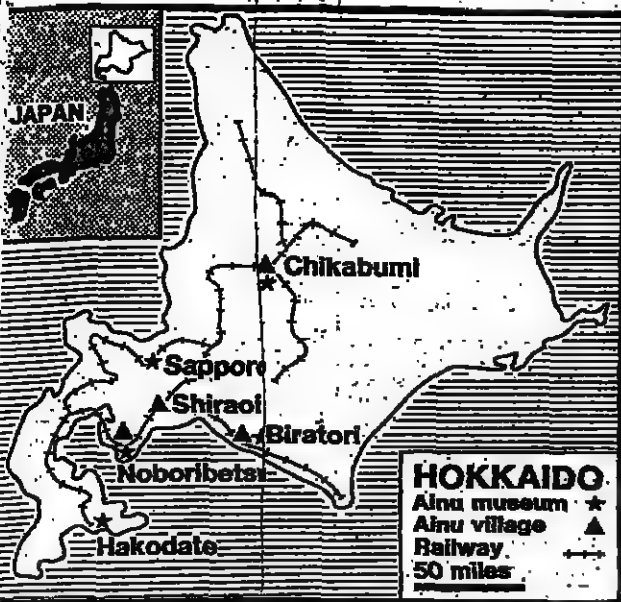
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Travel/edited by Shona Crawford Poole

Leslie Gardiner Hokkaido bear-hug



ressed in a coat of many colours, the young bear tumbled out of his cage and into the circle of spectators. The men, some with bunches of grass and guide him with their poles. It's good-humoured stuff. The bear, healthy and well-fed, has been the village pet for the past two years.

Next they put him on a long rope and pull him, his way and that. Selected villagers fire blunt arrows at him, not to hurt but to frighten him. After an hour or so the real arrows are brought into action. It seems a long time before the little bear, exhausted from loss of blood, finally tumbles to the ground. They take up the rope and drag him to the place of sacrifice and throttle him slowly between two horizontal baulks of timber. A young man winds the rope round himself and the bear's head. Girls and boys join in and a fast stamping dance develops; then a tug of war develops with the rope, men against women. The elders meantime are dismembering the bear, cooking bear steaks, drizzling bear broth, burning certain organs and taking others to the chief's hut for mystery. The bear's skin is stuffed with oats, dressed like a human being, danced with, ritually worshipped and finally delivered to the priest. The bear has become god.

All takes place in an atmosphere of controlled enthusiasm. The villagers would be horrified if you accused them of cruelty to animals. The bear was loosed by the gods and must be returned to the gods, purified by torment. So say the Ainu.

To visit the Ainu communities of Hokkaido was to suffer one more cultural shock, just as we were getting over the cultural shocks, ancient and modern, which all Westerners in Japan must experience. Superficially, Hokkaido is a heavily forested island, furnished with English-type beaches, Irish-type pubs and farms and highland-type glens and birch forests. Sapporo, where the JAL jet lands, is a rectilinear version of the Tokyo we've just left. But the Ainu (pronounced Inoo, meaning "human ani-

mal") are something else.

My guide, Mr. Kayano, flat face, pale Western eyes, portly — is a young-looking 58, great-grandson of a chieftain. He wears an Eastern suit and, to show how hairy he is, takes off the jacket and bares his chest and rolls up his sleeves. If he didn't shave twice a day his black beard would cover him to the eyebrows.

He has reconstructed, more or less single-handed, the Ainu village of timber-framed, bamboo-thatched huts at Biratori in the Kaisawa valley. He is, of course, an educated man, comfortably off, and he lives in a red-brick bungalow at Biratori, but when his son married he built the young couple a bungalow next door, agreeable to Ainu tradition.

It's unthinkable the young should live with their parents, so we give them a hut.

Contrary to my expectations, the hairy Ainu don't roam the forest hunting bear, or sail the grey sea in dugout canoes, spearing seal — that life is seen only in the museums and, if you're Ainu friends, don't commute to work at the nearest papermill or bank, they're probably busy turning out wood carvings and woven mats for the souvenir market. They are the aboriginals of Japan, their last refuge is Hokkaido, and they regard the Japanese as unwelcome intruders. The disdain appears to be mutual.

Thanks to Mr. Kayano's courteous, polite, and patient work at the so-called Bachelor House in the public park. From the Western world, Hokkaido is reached via Tokyo or Osaka on frequent and very comfortable Japan Air Lines flights (Tokyo-Sapporo one and a half hours, single fare £38), or by express train and ferry to the venerable port of Hakodate (Tokyo-Hakodate 15 hours, single fare £17). When the 35-mile bullet train tunnel is completed about 1983, the surface journey will be down to about five hours.

Hokkaido is a delightful in-summer but cold and harsh in spring and autumn, especially on the Okhotsk coast.

No British tour operators include Hokkaido or the Ainu villages in their package programmes, but Jafour, Oriental Magic, Osprey and Thai-Malaysia offer tailor-made holidays in Japan, or optional extensions to basic tours.



Commuter airlines/David Richardson A spot of turbulence

The airline industry is going through one of the worst periods in its history, reeling from the effects of the world recession and a cut-price fares war. But this year, while British Airways reported a loss of £141m, two other British airlines introduced scheduled services and a third resumed scheduled flights after a lapse of several years.

The names of Eastern Airways, Genair and Inter City Airlines are unknown to many air travellers, but their new services are dramatic evidence that Britain's minor airlines are looking to the future with a confidence not shared by the household names.

There are more than a dozen operating in Britain, known variously as feeder, commuter or "third level" airlines.

A spokesman for Plymouth-based Brymon Airways, one of the most successful, sums up their spirit and style thus: "Although the airports are usually small and you can sit behind the pilot, we are just as safe and follow the same rules as everyone else."

There's still a romance and a feeling of adventure about this kind of flying.

British minor airlines fall into three categories. First there are the feeder airlines, offering connections at major airports for smaller cities. Then come services between business centres where the plane is a realistic alternative to train or private car. Lastly, and longest established, are flights linking remote island communities with the mainland.

Brymon Airways, formed in 1972, fits into all three categories and now carries

more than 100,000 passengers a year. Its 20-seat Twin Otters fly three times daily from Plymouth to Exeter and a 50-seat Dart Herald is used on the twice-daily flight from Heathrow to Newcastle.

Feeder services also operate to Gatwick from Birmingham and East Midlands airports, with through booking on to British Caledonian services. Exeter, Jersey, Guernsey, the Scilly Isles, Cork and three French airports are also served.

Britain's newest scheduled airline is Genair, which started a twice-daily feeder service from Liverpool to Gatwick in August. It uses a 16-seat Bandeirante aircraft, a type built in Brazil and now regarded as the best passenger aircraft of its size.

Another newcomer this year is Eastern Airways, based at Humberside airport, which is equidistant from Hull, Grimsby and Scunthorpe. It took over the Heathrow-Norwich-Humberside-Glasgow route in April after Air UK pulled out.

The Belfast-based Short SD330 flown by Eastern is a major new hope for the aircraft industry, winning a number of export orders. It is no beauty from the outside, but the interior is designed by Boeing to big aircraft standards.

Another airline to use the SD330 is Inter City Airlines, the trading name of Aldair, based at East Midlands airport, near Derby. Aldair began to operate a much bigger Viscount to Copenhagen but pulled out, to return to scheduled services in May this year with an SD330 linking East Midlands with Edinburgh and Aberdeen.

Inter City Airlines has recently started a daily

service from East Midlands to Brussels. It has also applied to operate the SD330 on the Limerick-Aberdeen-Manchester, Aberdeen-Sum-burgh and Aberdeen-Kirkwall routes.

Air UK, an amalgamation of Air Anglia and British Island Airways, operates six Bandeirantes from its Exeter base on routes including Exeter-Gatwick and Southampton-Paris. Air Wales, which linked Cardiff with Chester and Paris, was also brought into Air UK, but the routes were scrapped as unprofitable.

The Channel Islands are well served by minor airlines, with inter-island routes and services to France and the British mainland. Jersey European Airways operates Bandeirantes, Twin Otters and Islanders, serving such airports as Brighton (Shannon) and Staines. It has this week been granted licences to operate between Liverpool and Dublin, and Liverpool, Waterford and Cork.

Guernsey Airlines operates to the island from Cambridge, Gloucester and Manchester plus services to Jersey, while the national airline of 2,000-population Alderney is Aurigny Air Services, whose Twin Otters, Islanders and Islanders fly between the island and Southampton, Brighton, Cherbourg, Jersey and Guernsey.

Scotland too has bred several new airlines in recent years. Loganair is the established minor airline, now challenged by Air Scotland. Other operators are Casair (Glasgow-Teesside) and Burnhill Aviation (Glasgow-Fort William, Rothesay and Lochgilphead).

Derek Harris Computers fly in

Your travel agent's counter is the next place you could soon find a television screen flickering with information and a keyboard to feed your holiday needs into a computer link-up. It would end all those tedious delays at peak booking times when travel agents can spend ages trying by telephone to get through to the package holiday companies.

Agents switching to a computer-based system will be able instantly to pull up on the screen the state of bookings on specific holidays, and alternatives to a customer's first preference. After bookings are keyed in, a print-out puts everything on paper for the customer to take away.

There was a lot of ballyhoo about the various new computerized systems when some 2,600 British travel agents went to their annual conference in Phoenix, Arizona, last week. That was because package tour operators, anxious to get into computerized bookings with the agents, still have to persuade them to spend money on the agency end of the system.

Thomson Holidays, the biggest package holiday company, made great play of the fact that an agent could take the computer route for about £375 in annual rental for a Prestel television set and a keyboard. Thomson looks to have 2,000 of its key agents hooked up by the middle of next year.

Thomas Cook Holidays was talking of having 300 of its agents on line by this year's end and 2,000 by the end of next year. Olympic Holidays reckons it should have 1,000 agents hooked up by Christmas and as many again within another year.

However, it remains to be seen how quickly some of even the big operators actually switch into the new technology. Agents are under pressure with the so far poor bookings for winter sun holidays and the prospect of nil growth at best next summer.

But the financial squeeze on travel agents, as the cost of holidays in real terms declines, is even tighter. It means a big rush into computerization by the agents might come later next year than some of the more optimistic forecasts suggest.

The take-up on more expensive systems, despite their attractions, might well also be slower. The Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA) has its own computer system on offer to members, around £7,000 being the cheapest option. An agent gets computer power to cope with the accounts and other agency business as well as the tour operator access and booking capability.

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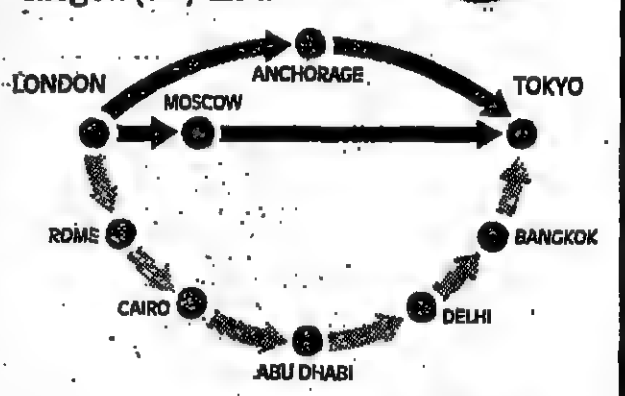
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Travel companies in the skiing business are still discounting heavily on Christmas week. Could it be that skiers are appalled by the prospect of travelling home on Boxing Day, or has everyone been waiting for this week's news of heavy snowfalls?

On both skiing and winter sun packages there are more discounts available than we have space to mention in this week's table. Thomson, for example, are still discounting their Tunisian Oasis and Cities of Andalusia holidays shown last week, and Cosmos have new low-price holidays which did not appear in the current winter brochure. Destinations include the Costa del Sol, Tenerife, Majorca and the Algarve.

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If you want to shine just add glitter

Anyone can sparkle this Christmas — if not with wit, at least with glitter. The fashion mood is for romance and escapism in decoration as well as in clothes and it doesn't cost a great deal to light a golden candle and push back the frontiers of economic gloom.

One of the most attractive candle departments just opened in London is at Harvey Nichols — the Point à la Ligne boutique which stocks a range of 36 colours in several sizes of candles from tapers at 44p each to 11 1/2 in candles at 61p each. There are also coordinating paper napkins, 89p pack of 20, and party plates at 35p

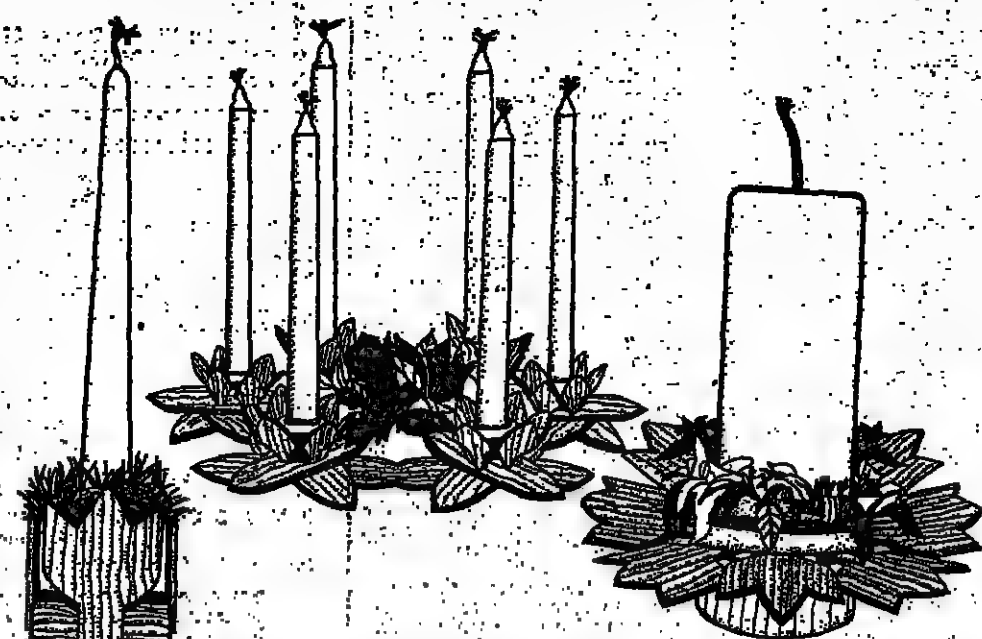
each, so you can plan your festive decor round almost any colour scheme.

Habitat, too, has candle coordinates — boxes of three dozen 5 1/4 in candles in brown, rust and green, red yellow and orange, blue green and olive or burgundy pink and grey, £2.50 per box. And the Candle Shop, 30 The Market, Covent Garden, boasts the widest size and colour range in Europe from 3p upwards.

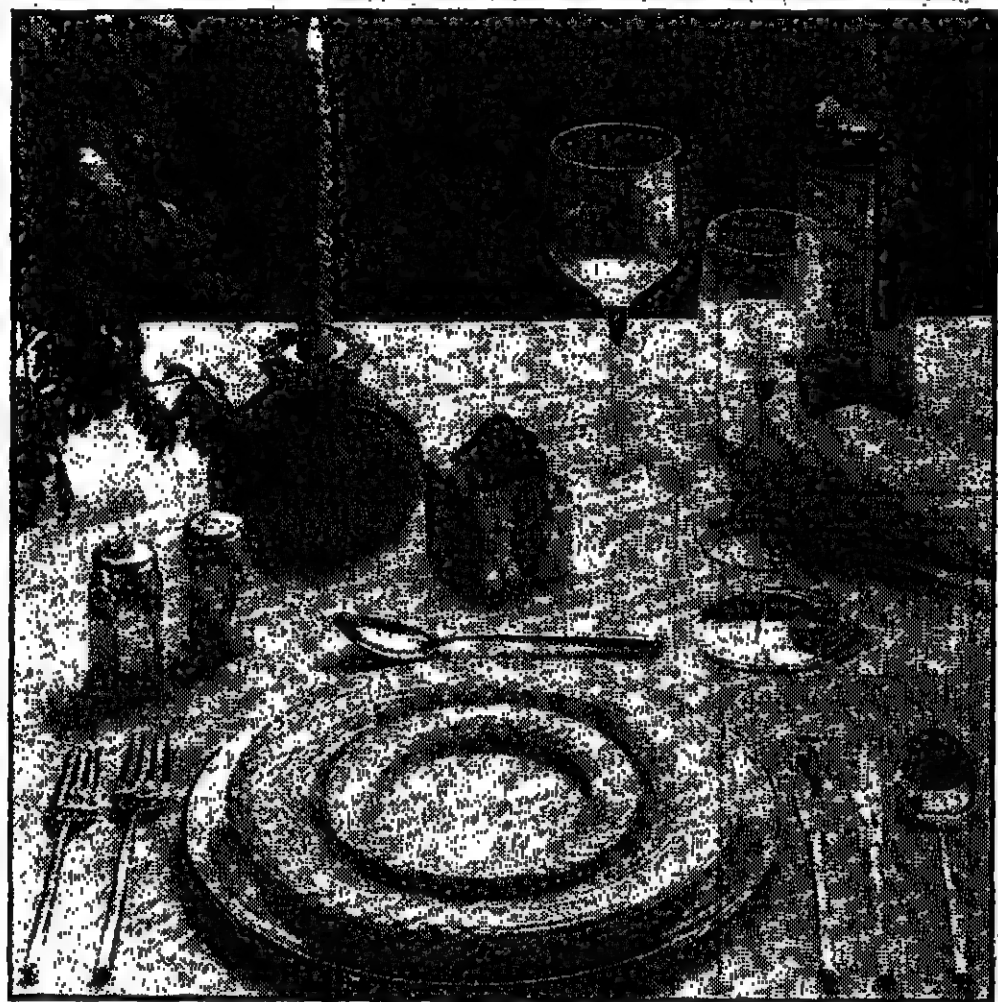
For sparkling cards and gift tags go to John Siddeley, 4 Harriet Street, London, SW1, whose elegant range has been created for him by Max Murphy Designs. No tawdry tinsel here, but the sort of sophisticated, simple

shapes in shimmering gold, silver and jewel colours that you would expect from this top interior designer. There are blank cards, 45p each, and tree hangings and gift tags at about 75p to £1 for a pack of five.

And if, by December 24, you feel your halo is slipping a little, try adding a little extra shine to your hair with a glitter spray. In an aerosol can, it is like a fine hair spray but leaves tiny shimmering pinpoints of gold or silver in your hair. Also, in red, blue, green or turquoise, they cost £3.50 each plus £1 p & p from Schumi, 16 Port Street, London, SW1, and branches.



Candle holders for any colour scheme — and any time of year — are in natural wood from Sweden; cut into decorative tulip designs. Single holder, £1.35; circular six candle holder £3.75; holder for fat candle, £1.75. Pinecone candle rings from 70p. All from the Swedish Table, 7 Paddington Street, London W1.



Harvey Nichols is expanding its china and glass department and placing special emphasis on co-ordinating tableware, both traditional English and modern Continental, American and Japanese. From its ranges we selected a golden scheme to add sparkle to any Christmas table. White and gold plates, called Scala d'Oro by Hutschenreuter, 10 in £15.95, 6 in £7.95 (other sizes available); bronze seven piece cutlery set (small spoon not shown) by Eurostar, £11.95 a box. Hexagonal golden salt and pepper, £19.95; golden apple coasters, £18.95 a box of six. Susak crystal goblets, Martini, large and medium each £8.50. Ten golden candle 5 1/2 in in a glittery gold Lurex each holder (filled with sand) £8.95. The gilt-wrapped box is a candle too, £2.99. All from Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, London SW1.

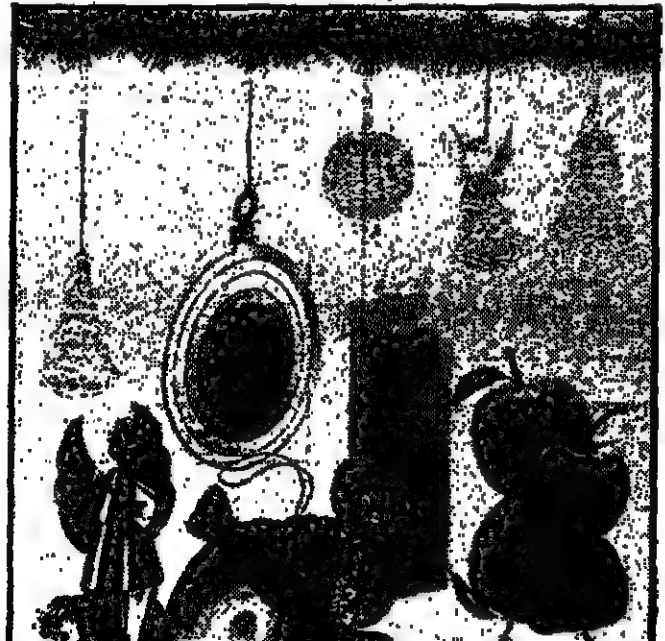
Sparkling hand made glass tree ornaments to catch the light in every facet — box of six assorted shapes, £3.50 plus 70p p&p from Peter Knight, London End, Beaconsfield and High Street, Essex.

□ Silvery catherine wheel, pack of five, £1 and glittery red heart gift tag, pack of five 75p, both by Max Murphy Designs at John Siddeley, 4 Harriet Street, London SW1.

□ Pack of four gold foil angels, £1.55 plus 20p p&p from the Swedish Table, 7 Paddington Street, London W1.

□ Shiny red silk apples 40p each of £4.50 box of 12 and little green plastic apples, 30p each, both from Harvey Nichols.

□ Sequined velvet doves from a selection of Indian padded tree ornaments 65p each plus 15p p&p for one to three (20p for four to six) from Nice Irma's, 46 Goudge Street, London W1.



Perks for the palate

However traditional you like your Christmas meal to be, there is always room during the holiday for a small surprise to perk up the palate, so whether you are taking a present of food or wine to your hostess, or simply laying in stocks for your guests, here are some of the temptations I have tried and enjoyed:

■ Adventurous Cook's Basket, containing a selection of English Provender wine vinegars and green and pink peppercorns for marinades, stuffings, sauces — £8.50 (£2.50 p & p) from Hannells, 3 Davies Street, London, W1.

■ Hazelnut oil from Hédiard in Paris, £3.85 (99p p & p) for 50cl, or walnut oil, £2.45 (99p p & p) 50cl — both turn the plainest salad into something ambrosial — from Duff and Trotter, 40 Wilkinsons Street, London, SW8 1DB.

■ A famous name in tea is now back on the shelves — Hornumans. The range includes five very good quality teas, Earl Grey, Assam, Darjeeling, Ceylon in 125g cartons at about 44p or in packs of 20 tea bags, 35p, and Lapsang Souchong in cartons only. From selected Safeway and Tesco supermarkets.

■ For those who prefer coffee — four new flavours from Langford Brothers. French Roast is for those

who like very dark smoky coffee. Mocha for those who are rather weaker-kneed. Columbia and Kenya for those who like the flavour strong but not bitter. All filter fine, £1.90 for 250g packs from Heals and Liberty's or by post from the Clippier Tea and Produce Company, 24 West Park Road, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DA (by mail, two packs £4.50, four packs £8.50 including postage).

■ For parties, big 4 1/2 lb pots of paré from Sainsbury's, Brussels, £5.58 and Farmhouse, £5.12 are smooth. Duck, £5.76 until December 14 when it will be £6.48, and Turkey, £6.30 are coarser. Prices include the pot and are a saving of 12p per lb on each part when bought by the portion.

■ For cooks with no time to spare the best bought puddings and cakes to my taste are still at Marks and Spencer. Luxury Christmas Pudding with cider and rum, 3lb, £3.99; 2lb, £2.85; 1lb, £1.60; Luxury Christmas cake, £7.99, all rich, dark, fruity and moist. I also particularly liked their Biscuits for Cheese assortment, very crisp and just the right saltiness, 99p for 1.1lb.

■ For sweet-toothed gourmets — a chocolate bar 12 1/2 in long to slice as you choose. The base is marzipan topped

with lin of cognac flavoured truffle, all wrapped in chocolate. In a gold foil box, the Cognac Truffle is £3.75 plus 50p p & p from the Swedish Table, 7 Paddington Street, London W1.

■ For those who prefer their liquor as a liquid asset I have been trying a selection of wines from the makers of my favourite pink champagne, Cordier Laurent Perrier. For party drinking they have five bottles of Cordier Vin de Table — the medium dry white is a very easy tipple; not acidic, not too sweet, at £2.80 a litre — and for something special to drink with the turkey the Laurent Perrier Grand Liqueur 1973 is a beautifully balanced claret at £7.50. Corney and Barrow, 12 Helmer Row, EC1 and Rex Norris of Haywards Heath are among merchants who have a good selection of Cordier wines.

■ And to save you the trouble of shopping around for Christmas gifts, a survey of the major supermarkets shows that ASDA have the cheapest Gordon's gin at £5.78 with Littlewoods and Safeway runners up at £6.79. Teachers' whisky is £6.09 at Tesco and Littlewoods, Haig £6.09 at Sainsbury's, Courvoisier brandy £8.15 and Martell £8.25 at ASDA, £8.39 and £8.49 at Safeway.

Putting the dazzle into diamonds

Selling diamonds to Liberate must be as superfluous as flogging Magical to an oil sheikh, but Ivor Gordon is not a jeweller to be daunted by a little competition. When you also count Elizabeth Taylor and Elaine Stritch among your customers, dazzle is your business.

Although he comes from diamond country, South Africa, he first studied economics and law before being lured into the jewelry business by the sheer magic of beautiful stones. He concentrated on the 'cut' variety as in South Africa it is illegal for anyone outside the factories to possess uncut stones — none of this hidden treasure wrapped up in bits of plain paper that everyone in Hutton Garden carries in his pocket, if we are to believe the recent television series *Diamonds*.

He was particularly fascinated by the beauty of coloured gems and set out to learn everything he could about their composition and the most effective ways of showing them to their best advantage. As a result he has developed a technique which is unique in London — the

setting of a diamond directly into the centre of another precious or semi-precious stone.

These can be amethysts, tourmalines, sapphires or rubies — almost anything but emeralds, which would be likely to shatter — and for maximum effect the diamond must be at least half a carat. Only two rings have so far been made in this style — the first a diamond set in a cabochon amethyst, the second, illustrated, is an 18ct gold ring with the diamond set in a faceted pink tourmaline.

Not many such rings will be made for even if there is a rash of customers clamouring to pay for £2,500 to own one, Ivor Gordon has the finely tuned South African awareness of the dangers of flooding the diamond market. In any case, he offers several other services to his clients, including remodelling their own jewels.

The design of jewelry is his greatest pleasure and he will create special pieces to suit a customer, either in modern style or in versions of delicate Edwardian settings. And if you buy a loose

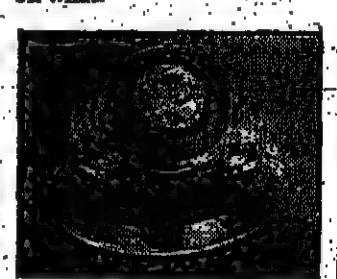
stone for him to set it will first be sent off to a gem laboratory so that you can have documentary evidence of its purity, weight and colour.

Even if your price range is nearer to £100 rather than £1,000, you can still enjoy a visit to this tiny showroom at 49b Sloane Street, London SW1, lined with mirrors and pale grey moiré silk. Like the inside of a jewel box, there are charming Victorian rings and brooches of turquoise or pearls at about £145. Deco cuff links in platinum and diamonds at £325, chains of carved ebony linked with gold at £450.

Whatever the price, half the fun will be discussing your choice with Ivor Gordon, for you cannot fail to catch his enthusiasm for beautiful things, trust his appreciation of good design and his knowledge of quality. As his wife, Eleanor, put it: "You need professional guidance when you buy jewelry. You wouldn't do your own legal work or accountancy — you need someone who will show you exactly why you are spending your money and on what."



Dramatic American-Indian necklace in silver and turquoise, £127.25 at Liberty's, Regent Street, London W1; butterfly-shaped silver and turquoise brooch, £14.50 and 1920s-style dancing brooch in silver and enamel, £24 both from Butler and Wilson, 189 Fulham Road, London SW3.



Sparkle of the 'rarest kind' — an 18ct gold ring showing Ivor Gordon's new technique of embedding a diamond in the centre of another stone — in this case a pink tourmaline, £2,500.



Gardening/Roy Hay

Putting down roots

Many people don't realize how easy it is to propagate a wide range of trees and shrubs by hard wood cuttings taken usually, but not always, in the dormant season from October to March. An exception is the gooseberry which seems to root better while the cutting still carries some leaves.

Hard wood cuttings take a year to root but most cuttings inserted towards the end of the one year may be planted in their permanent positions in the following autumn or the spring of the following year. I have found the proportion that root successfully is remarkably high, better often than with semi hard wood or soft cuttings.

They may be rooted in a well prepared bed in a sheltered but not shaded spot. Ordinary reasonably fertile garden soil is suitable, but work in some well decayed manure or garden compost. Make sure the ground is free from perennial weeds.

Make a shallow trench about 6 to 8 in deep and put an inch or so of sharp sand in the bottom. Stand the cuttings on this against one wall of the trench about six inches apart and firm them well in. If they should be loosened by frost in the winter tread them in firmly again. The length of the cuttings varies but normally they should be about 8 to 12 in long. The soft upper parts of shoots, if green and unripened, should be discarded and only firm wood used.

Roses root fairly easily. I have grown 'Peace', 'Iceberg', 'Buccleuch', 'Queen Elizabeth' and many more successfully on their own roots. Less strong growers do not make such vigorous plants. The advantage of roses on their own roots over those budded on briar stocks is that there is no sucker problem — any shoots that come from below ground are those of the cultivated variety.

Insert the cutting so that the lower half to two thirds is in the ground. Normally one leaves any buds on the part of the cutting to be buried, but in the case of gooseberries and red currants the lower buds are rubbed off because these bushes are normally grown on a leg and we do not want shoots coming from below ground.

With black currants we want to encourage new shoot from below ground so we leave all the buds on.

A number of trees root easily from hard wood cuttings. I have often heard of young trees dying but the stake taking root. Willows, mulberries and poplars root easily. Shrubs that are easily propagated in this way are forsythias, weigelas, philadelphus, privet, flowering currant (ribes), pyracantha and the Russian vine, *Polygonum baldschuanicum*.

I am often asked to recommend a good book about plant propagation. The latest to appear is *The Complete Book of Plant Propagation* by Robert Wright and Alan Titchmarsh (Ward Lock £7.95). It contains chapters that will be appreciated by both readers — mist propagation, budding and grafting, for example. But many other methods are described which may sound complicated but are really simplicity itself — soft, semi hard cuttings, layering in the ground and air layering.

People think that propagation is a great mystery, needing green fingers. But all that is really needed is intelligent observation and patience. Much depends in many cases on the stage of development of the cuttings: those taken too young and soft may rot; taken too late when the wood has hardened up they may take months to root, if indeed they ever do.

But the beauty of propagating one's own plants is that it costs nothing but an hour or two of our time, and great is the satisfaction when we have managed to put roots on a cutting which everybody said would never root.

Jobs for December

Finish clearing up leaves, the remains of vegetable crops and summer annuals. Cut down herbaceous plants and fork over the border, working in for a bonfire or a hot and humoral to the square yard.

Prune apple and pear trees. If they have not been sprayed with a tar oil or DNO spray for several years do so before the end of the year. The tar oil will clear any green algal growth.

Bulbs growing in pots or bowls outdoors can be brought in soon. When tulips and daffodils show two inches of growth, and when the hyacinths bud, it is well clear of the bulb they should stand in the hall or a cool room for a few days before bringing them into a warm sitting room.

Sponge the leaves of house plants with tepid water to remove dust; plants with many small leaves may be dunked in a sink full of water.

When you buy your Christmas tree spray it with S600, which now comes in aerosol packs, to prevent the needles from dropping. It also helps to keep holly, ivy and other evergreen decorations from shrivelling prematurely.

If you are moving or planting evergreens spray their leaves with S600 to prevent shrivelling by drying winds before they have had time to make new roots.

S600, also Staffoil, the spray to apply now to discourage birds from stealing buds on fruit trees and hedges, ornamental trees and shrubs and garden shrubs or from Synchemicals, 44 Grange Walk, London, SE1 3EN.

The Times Cook
Shonia Crawford Poole

The cassoulet cult

There are as many versions of cassoulet as there are of any other time-honoured country dish which has won wide popularity. In the area around Toulouse there are restaurants to which cassoulet lovers make a pilgrimage.

And as with any dish thus acclaimed, there are numerous versions of it. Strong and often differing views are held on what it should and should not contain. There are schools of thought for and against the inclusion of tomato, wine and other ingredients. I even came across a fine example in Carcassonne this summer, which used only one vegetable — the onion — and was organically grown. (Or, in the case of the meat, raised).

For a dish which is no more than a glorified rendering of baked beans with hangovers, it excites strong passions. Some people like it thick and sludgy while others prefer the main elements to remain moist of their own identity. So before giving the recipe I should say that my cassoulet has no wine and no tomato and is not sludgy, unless cooked too long.

If you did not make confit of goose, duck or pork from last week's recipe, you can substitute part-roasted goose or duck, or chunks of pork which have been quickly browned. Alternatively, use bacon in the piece.

If you plan to make the dish and freeze it, and it freezes very well, add the topping of breadcrumbs only for the final reheating.

Cassoulet
Serves at least 10
900g (2lbs) white kidney beans or cannellini beans
3 large onions, chopped
5 cloves garlic, finely chopped
250g (8oz) green streaky bacon, diced
1.25 litres (2 1/2 pints) well flavoured meat or poultry stock
450g (1lb) Toulouse sausages; or other rough cut pure pork sausages
1 small shoulder or leg of lamb, boned
2 or 3 large pieces of confit of goose, duck or pork
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
2 bay leaves

Soak the beans overnight in plenty of cold water. Next day, rinse them in fresh water and put them in a large pan. Cover them with water and bring slowly to the boil. Skim the pot well and reduce the heat to a simmer. Cover and continue cooking until the beans are tender but not falling apart. This can take anything from about 40 minutes to two hours, depending on the age and whiteness of the beans. Drain them and set them aside.

Make the stock while the beans are cooking. Put the onion, garlic and bacon in a pan and sweat them gently together on a low heat until the onions are soft. They should not brown. Add the stock and simmer, covered, until needed.

In a frying pan, brown the sausages in a little goose fat or lard, then add them to the stock. Cut the lamb into big cubes and brown these too on all sides.

Rub a large casserole, preferably an earthenware one, with a cut clove of garlic. Cut the sausages into four pieces and put them in the casserole with the browned lamb and pieces of confit. Add the bay leaves and thyme, and depending on the strength of the stock, salt and pepper. The confit is fairly salty so of course, but the beans do absorb a lot of seasoning. Cover the meat with the beans then pour in the stock. Sprinkle the top of the dish with a thick layer of breadcrumbs and bake it, uncovered, in a moderate oven (160°C/325°F, gas mark 3) for 1 1/2 to 2 hours. By this time the lamb and sausages should be cooked through and the breadcrumbs will have formed a golden brown crust.

If you have prepared the cassoulet up to the baking stage then allowed it to cool, you should cook it for an hour before topping it with breadcrumbs and baking for another 1 1/2 hours. This is to ensure that the lamb and sausages are thoroughly cooked.

Serve the cassoulet from its cooking pot with no more than a crisp green salad and perhaps fruit or cheese to follow.

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Business News

THE TIMES Saturday December 5 1981

Personal investment, pages 18 and 19

Vives get raw deal from tax man, page 18

Housing starts set to exceed forecasts

By Paul Phillips
Private sector housing starts are set to exceed original forecasts despite the recession and high interest rates. Housebuilders now forecast a total of about 118,000 starts by the end of the year compared with last year's 80,000, the lowest since 1953. The forecast is based on figures issued by the Department of the Environment, which indicate that the annual number of new houses started in 1981 will be 118,000, an increase of 48 per cent over the same period last year. With figures for two months of the year still to come in the total could reach 120,000 starts, but traditionally work falls away in the run up to Christmas and the final outcome is likely to be just under that figure. But public sector starts have fallen dramatically since the beginning of the year, reducing the total to 100,000. Between January and October fewer than 10,000 public housing starts were made—40 per cent lower than the same period last year. It is expected that public and private sector starts this year will be roughly the same as 1980 at between 153,000 and 154,000.

According to the department's figures, there appears to be evidence of a big cut-back by housebuilders in the private sector despite high mortgage rates and a poor economic climate. This is due to the effort made by builders to offer buyers a range of attractive financial packages. Although the basic mortgage interest rate now stands at 15 per cent, buyers of new homes are being offered rates as low as 7½ per cent for the first year. Nearly every big builder in Britain is offering cheap packages to sell houses. Other incentives include payment of solicitors and surveyors' fees and mortgages of almost 300 per cent.

The House Builders Federation said: "Private sector housing starts have held up remarkably well and it shows that the incentives builders are offering are making an impact."

This year has also witnessed a shift away from traditional three bedroom houses to small single person "starter" units being built by market leaders such as Barratt Developments and Wimpey.

The federation said there was some indication that the drop in the public sector building programme was being compensated for by private housing, in line with government objectives.

North Sea oil public share plan scrapped

By Frances Williams
The Government has abandoned its plans to launch North Sea oil savings bonds, which would have given the public a chance to share in the huge revenues from Britain's offshore oilfields.

The decision follows directly from the announcement in October that the Government is to sell off into private hands the oilfields owned by the British National Oil Corporation, to which the return on the bonds was to be linked.

But the weakness of world oil prices has also influenced the decision by reducing the bonds' potential attraction to investors.

Treasury officials, who have been lukewarm to the idea since it was announced to the Conservative party conference by Mr David Howell, then Energy Secretary 15 months ago, will be relieved.

The bonds were seen at the time as a political sop to hard-line MPs demanding full-blooded nationalisation of BNOC and who were disappointed by Mr Howell's failure to come up with proposals for selling off a majority share-

holding in the corporation. The bonds, up to £500m worth, were to have been issued in small denominations such as £25 or even £10 through post offices as a form of national savings. The return would have been linked to the revenues of specified BNOC oilfields. The bonds would not have entitled holders to any stake in the corporation's assets or to a say in its operations.

Almost immediately, however, the plan ran into practical difficulties over how the return was to be calculated. Falling oil prices and uncertainty over future production levels added to the complications. Production levels in particular depend to a large extent on government policy towards depletion rates and taxation.

North Sea savings bonds would also have competed with other forms of national savings and with gilt sales which are now offering exceptionally high returns. So the benefits to government funding would have been limited, especially since the extension from September of inflation-protected

national savings certificates—"the people's bond"—to all age groups.

The Treasury was still trying to sort out the technical difficulties when Mr Nigel Lawson, the new Energy Secretary, told the Commons that BNOC's production interests, and those of British Gas, were to be sold. The chief political argument in favour of the bonds has thus disappeared.

An announcement of the decision to drop the bonds is unlikely, however, until after Christmas, perhaps next spring. Until then, the bonds remain "under consideration".

It is still not known exactly how the Government's privatisation plans will be put into operation. But there have been reports that the British Gas Corporation may be ordered to sell its offshore oil interests to BNOC.

All BNOC's exploration and production assets, including its interest in the North Sea, would be transferred to a separate company, a majority shareholding in which would be offered to the public.

Development controls on industry eased

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent
The Government has decided to end the system of Industrial Development Certificates, designed originally to ensure that new industrial development was sited away from non-assisted areas of the country but which, it is now admitted, has proved its usefulness.

Mr John MacGregor, Under Secretary of State for Industry, said in a statement yesterday that despite recent relaxations in the issue of certificates, the requirements remained a psychological barrier to investment which both unnecessarily delayed the planning process and were detrimental to industrial efficiency.

The certificates were introduced in 1947 as a means of checking industrial development in non-assisted areas and encouraging companies to expand in areas such as Wales and Scotland, where various forms of regional assistance were available.

Mr MacGregor, speaking in a debate on unemployment in the House of Commons, said that since 1975 only 28 out of 7,000 applications for certificates had been refused and there was little evidence that the procedure had caused

companies to relocate projects in assisted areas.

In 1979, Sir Keith Joseph, then Secretary of State for Industry, increased the exemption limit for new developments in non-assisted areas from 15,000 sq ft (12,500 sq ft in the south east) to 50,000 sq ft but Mr MacGregor said the existence of the control still may have discouraged new investment in places such as the West Midlands.

Instead of legislating to abolish the certificates, which would increase pressure on parliamentary time, it had been decided to revoke the regulations by the end of the year. The certificates and this would in effect suspend the system until further notice.

The Confederation of British Industry yesterday welcomed the decision.

Industry has blamed government hindrance, in the form of controls such as the certificates, for past decisions to locate new plants away from traditional centres of production. Among the most celebrated was the building of the Rover car factory at Linwood, near Glasgow, which has now been closed by the Peugeot group.

SE starts Brown inquiry

By Peter Walworth
The Quotation Committee of the Stock Exchange is looking into the controversy surrounding John Brown, the engineer. The group said on Wednesday that profits this year would be well down on the level expected at the time of a rights issue in September. The announcement at once sent shares plunging 16p to 62p but after a further fall they recovered 5p yesterday to 67p.

The committee acted after a meeting on Monday of 5 million shares through the leading brokers, James Capel. The shares are thought to have come from several institutions using the merchant banker, B. G. Warburg. Brown's own broker, Rowe & Pimman, said it was not approached.

The inquiry—the Stock Exchange avoids the term investigation—will probably be wide-ranging. In September, John Brown offered its shareholders 33 million shares at 75p in the proportion of one new share for every three held, to raise £24m. The issue was underwritten by J. Henry Schroder Wagg, the merchant banker. Broker to the issue was Rowe & Pimman.

The rights issue (several brokers independent of the group made cheerful profit forecasts) was unsuccessful. Only a tenth of shareholders took up the new shares; the rest were absorbed by underwriters who may have been among the sellers in the Capel placing.

In its announcement on Wednesday, John Brown said that management's short-term earnings were discovered recently in its machine tool division. A divisional loss of £4m this year was feared. The company added: "Conditions have materially worsened with evidence of a recession in the United States and the disappointment of our hopes of some signs of recovery in the United Kingdom."



Mrs Julia Morley, organizer of the Miss World contest and her husband Mr Eric Morley, joint chairman of Belhaven.

Miss World fails to help Belhaven

The Miss World contest is not giving the boost to profits that the Belhaven Brewery Group thought it would when it bought a two-thirds stake in the company that runs Mr Eric Morley's annual beauty competition earlier this year.

The Dunbar based brewery, which is fast expanding into leisure interests under the joint chairmanship of Mr Morley, said yesterday that Miss World (Jersey) would not realize the profits that has been forecast on acquisition.

Belhaven stripped out the results of its Miss World subsidiary from its half year figures announced yesterday.

but they still showed a hiccup in the group's recent recovery. The company says that including the Miss World figures for the six months to September 30 could be very misleading. It says that it is known that sales for the full year will be about 20 per cent higher than for the last year, but greatly increased costs have been encountered. The contest has suffered from lack of sponsorship since Mr Morley left Mecca in 1979.

Judging from the increased income, the full year's post tax profits for Miss World should still exceed those of the previous year. Last year, the group

reported post tax profits of £17,952 on turnover of £434,027.

The group as a whole expects that there will be little, if any, profit for the full year, although it looks forward to a marked improvement in the group's figures in the next financial year.

At the half way stage, profits excluding any contribution from Miss World were £187,000, 15.4 per cent lower than for the corresponding period last year.

Mr Belhaven says that in the light of current performance, it is not going to restore the six-monthly dividend.

Arms spending 23 pc above target

Arms spending by the Ministry of Defence was running more than 23 per cent higher than expected during the first half of this financial year, according to the winter supplementary estimates laid before Parliament by Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Financial Secretary to the Treasury. The estimates are the basic form in which the Government seeks approval for its spending from Parliament.

The amount by which the Ministry of Defence has exceeded its expected spending in the first six months of 1981-

82 is already greater than the upward revision in cash limits announced on Wednesday. That announcement showed that the ministry's permitted cash-limited spending would be £19m higher than originally budgeted, at £11,854.2m.

The latest figures will raise new fears about the inability of the Government to control its defence spending. The Ministry of Defence has persistently overspent its budget and its cash limit had to be revised sharply upwards last year.

The Treasury last night

insisted that the defence spending in the first half year was not a reliable guide to the outcome for the year as a whole. It had been boosted by effects of the Civil Service strike and a bunching of payments.

Yesterday's supplementary estimates were taken into account when the Chancellor announced in Tuesday's mini-Budget that public spending would be about £107,000m in the present financial year or £2,000m more than planned.

Confusion as Marathon battle nears deadline

The battle for Marathon Oil took another confusing turn yesterday as shareholders grappled with the choice of offers to accept by midnight in Washington, the deadline for two standing tenders from Mobil Oil, at \$126 (£65) a share and US Steel at \$125 a share.

The merger has come to a standstill, however, because of a court ruling temporarily blocking Mobil's \$6,500m (£3,367m) bid on antitrust grounds and another court ruling yesterday temporarily preventing US Steel from going ahead until a judge rules on a challenge from Mobil.

Meanwhile, shareholders are left to decide which offer to take based on their own forecast of likely outcome.

Mobil is at a disadvantage because of a court ban on antitrust grounds and another court's refusal to overturn the ban.

But it hopes to overcome this by sharing Marathon assets with another company which would take its refining and marketing operations in the mid-western states, while Mobil would keep its huge Texas oil reserves.

The two companies rumoured to be Mobil's most likely partners are Amerasia-Hess and Mesa Petroleum.

Mobil's challenge to US Steel's offer could well be upheld by a court in Columbus, Ohio, next week.

The antitrust challenge is, however, considered the more serious of the two cases.

JOBING BREAK FOR A WOMAN

A woman has at last crashed into the male preserve of jobbing on the London Stock Exchange. Pinchin, Denny, a leading City jobbing firm, has appointed Miss Joanna Bunham to deal on the gilt pitch.

At 20, she is extremely young for such an exacting position, to which she has been promoted after only two years with the firm.

At school in Southend she gained 10 "O" levels and an "A" level in English, and she is now awaiting the results of Stock Exchange practice examinations.

The Manchester exchange has had women jobbers for about five years. But London in the past 10 years has seen women on the floor only as clerks, called bull buttons, and there are handfuls of women stockbrokers. It is unlikely, however, that Miss Bunham will don the black top hat which traditionally gilds dealers have worn.

REAGAN MAY TAX GAS PROFIT

Washington, Dec 4.—The Reagan Administration is seriously considering accepting a windfall profits tax on the depletion of natural gas prices, despite its previous rejection.

Administration officials have revived the idea as they grapple with huge budget problems for the fiscal year which starts next October. Depending on how it is structured, a windfall profits tax could yield \$10,000m to \$20,000m more a year, which would help narrow the huge budget deficits projected for 1983 and beyond.

The Administration has often said it philosophically favours natural gas deregulation, but it has stoutly opposed any windfall profits tax on the extra revenue such a move would generate for gas producers. Earlier this year, President Reagan promised a group of congressmen from energy-producing states that he would veto any such tax.

TUC urged to withdraw from Neddy

Leaders of the Transport and General Workers Union yesterday launched a campaign to persuade the Trades Union Congress to pull out of tripartite talks with government ministers and leaders of industry. The union's executive decided on the move in an attempt to increase pressure on the Cabinet to scrap plans to curb the closed shop and make union funds liable to court action for damages.

Mr Moss Evans, TGWU general secretary, said: "It is foolish to sit on the National Economic Development Coun-

cil and its sector working parties with the Government when legislation proposed by the employment secretary would reduce the ability of unions to do their job effectively."

As one of the TUC's top level Neddy Six, Mr Evans sits on the NEDC alongside CBI executives, and with its broader membership across industry and the public services, his union is represented on a wide range of bodies.

Mr Evans has written to Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, proposing withdrawal from the NEDC. His letter is likely to be on the agenda of the TUC's employment policy and organization committee meeting on Wednesday. The TUC has been round this course once before, over the original 1980 Employment Act, and at that time declined to break off contacts with government and business leaders. But Mr Evans argued yesterday: "I think there is a strong feeling on the TUC general council at the moment. If I am any judge of the situation, this proposal might be acceptable."

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Stock Markets

FT Index 529.3 up 9.4
FT Gilt 84.61 up 0.52
FT All Share 312.04 up 5.01
Bargains 18,813

■ Sterling
\$1.9420 up 70 points.
Index 91.9 up 0.5
New York: \$1.9372

■ Dollar
Index 105.5 down 0.5
DM2.242 down 60 pts

■ Gold
\$425.50 up \$9.50
New York: \$422.70

■ Money
3 mth sterling 14½
3 mth Euro \$ 12½-12½
6 mth Euro \$ 12½-12½

PRICE CHANGES

Rises
Ary Ridge 10p to 22½p
Beckham 10p to 21½p
Brylcreme 8p to 25p
Butterfield-Harvey 2½p to 25p
Tremend Metal 10p to 78½p
GEC 10p to 78½p
Ipsley Chem Ind 10p to 29½p
Marcellite Hse 10p to 41½p
Munk A. 10p to 15½p
Metherell 10p to 28½p
Pilkington Bros 10p to 34½p
Plessey 10p to 34½p
Tilling T. 6p to 58½p
Unigate 10p to 60½p
Unilever 10p to 60½p

Falls
Assan Frontier 5p to 20p
Cawoods 5p to 21½p
Davies & Nunn 7p to 68p
ERF Ridges 3p to 7½p
Greenall 4p to 28½p
Hanson Trust 7p to 13½p
Hill C Bristol 7p to 13½p
Hoover 5p to 80p
House of Fraser 4p to 52p
Hamlet 7p to 41½p
Racal 7p to 13½p
Roundhouse & K 5p to 35½p
Steel Secs 5p to 35½p
UKO Int 5p to 35½p
Utd Scientific 5p to 35½p

Setback for the dollar

The pound gained 70 points in London yesterday to finish at \$1.9420. The dollar, which had fallen back late on Thursday after the United States Federal Reserve Board's one point cut in its discount rate to 12 per cent, received a further set-back from bad unemployment figures but recovered late in the European day to close 60 points down at DM2.242.

The Fed's cut, the second in a month, reflects both the deepening recession and a continuing decline in credit demand. It also means that prices of Treasury bonds rose sharply. The Treasury's 14 per cent bonds, due in 30 years, rising almost 2½ points, or \$25 for each \$1,000 bond, the issue for each \$1,000 to yield 12.99 per cent.

Analysts said the bond market rally, which began at the end of October, could be given new impetus. Most expect interest rates to continue to decline, with another discount rate cut next month, but to start rising by mid-year.

Japan's surprise

Japan's real growth in gross national product is likely to be 4 per cent this year and not the forecast 4.7 per cent, Government officials said in Tokyo after their economist announced an increase of only 0.6 per cent in the July to September quarter. They admitted the news was a surprise.

France is to invest Fr2,300m (£207m) in its machine tool industry in an attempt to raise output by 100 per cent by 1985.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

The sauce of the Scots

A team of dons has had the sauce to invent a British soy sauce. Its efforts to rival the traditional Chinese product have won it the Confederation of British Industry Scotland innovation prize for 1981.

The dons, at Strathclyde University, Glasgow, plan to open a factory to capture a share of the £15m British market, supplied from China, Japan and Korea.

Mr Ted North, director of the university's Centre for Industrial Innovation, said:

"We are taking some academic work from the microbiology department and turning it into a business. We can match the Eastern product for price, quality and consistency."

"As the Japanese are drinking whisky made in Japan, so we can use soy sauce made here."

The team has raised cash to set up a factory at Cumbernauld, which will open in March and eventually employ 10 people. It plans to branch out with other soy sauce products.

Playboy to seek its licences back

Playboy, which lost its gambling licences for its London casinos this year, will appeal to have the licences restored at Kingsbridge Crown Court on January 25. If the appeal fails, Trident Television, which has agreed to buy the casinos, subject to shareholders' approval, will try to obtain licences. Trident is reported as saying that if it is successful in obtaining the licences it will scrap Playboy's image, including the bunnies.

New ICL links

ICL is to announce more collaborative ventures with computer and electronics companies on Monday. The management, which took control of the struggling computer manufacturer this summer, has already reached collaborative agreements with Fujitsu, of Japan, Three Rivers, of the United States, and Mitel, of Canada.

SIR in £1,500m state rescue

The Italian Government approved yesterday a £1,500m plan to salvage the insolvent SIR chemical group, whose former head, Signor Nino Rovelli, is reported to be abroad since an arrest warrant was issued.

The 'flexible' Government

The Government's spending plans are a sign of its flexibility in dealing with changed circumstances, Mr Leon Brittan, the Treasury Chief Secretary, told Manchester Stock Exchange yesterday. He said the measures also showed the Government's determination to help industry.

Low interest rates could best be achieved by holding down borrowing and he said this was the most effective form of aid to industry. The Government was also helping employers by reducing the cost of insurance contributions, which had gone up less than inflation. Nationalized industries had been given increased allocations of funds.


Mr Brittan said the Treasury had not pressed to hold spending to the level planned at the time of the Budget. All the Cabinet discussions had been about how much more to allow.

The Brazilian inflation rate fell to 99.1 per cent last month—the first time it has been below 100 per cent for 18 months.

Car sales may boom

The Chrysler Corporation, which has not reported a full-year profit since 1977, expects to do so next year, the company said in Detroit yesterday. It said sales were expected to improve then.

But the company, which lost \$1,700m (£377.5m) last year, said there would be a large loss this year. In the first nine months, the company has



Lloyds Bank

Interest Rates

Lloyds Bank Limited has reduced its Base Rate from 15% to 14.5% p.a. with effect from Friday, 4th December 1981.

Other rates of interest are reduced as follows:

- 7-day-notice Deposit Accounts and Savings Bank Accounts – from 13% to 12.5% p.a.
- Special Savings Plan – from 15% to 14.5% p.a.

The change in Base Rate and Deposit Account interest will also be applied from the same date by the United Kingdom branches of

Lloyds Bank International Limited
The National Bank of New Zealand Limited

Lloyds Bank Limited, 31 Lombard Street, London EC3 3BS.

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Insurance

Wives get a raw deal

Last year a friend was badly injured when her horse fell on top of her. Happily she made a full recovery, but only after weeks in hospital and months more hobbling gingerly around at home.

Her husband had great difficulty paying for and organizing help with the children, the house and the washing. "What a pity" she said to me "that I was not insured for this sort of thing."

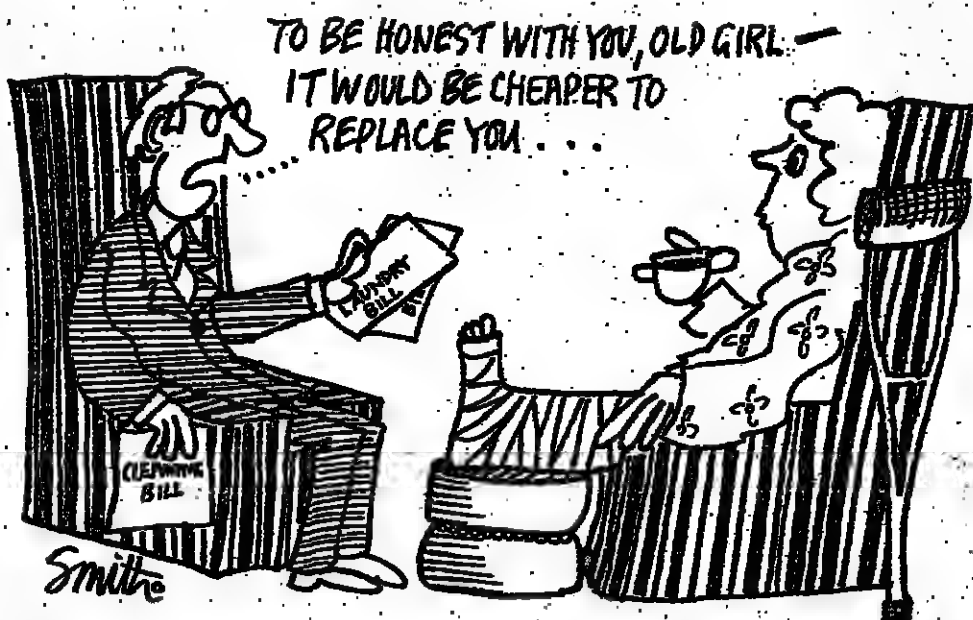
But few housewives are — mainly because insurers do not like this end of the business. Only a handful of companies among the dozens now cashing in on the booming permanent health insurance market will provide disability insurance for wives or mothers who do not work.

They are all, on the other hand, falling over themselves to sell non-working wives term life insurance on the basis of their replacement cost.

The hypocrisy of this attitude was pointed out recently by a reader who has been confused by the difficulties of finding permanent health cover for his wife. "Legal and General" has recently obtained a great deal of publicity for its campaign to sell term insurance for wives," he said. "A few weeks ago I and G assessed the worth of a wife's work at £204 a week."

As he so rightly points out, the same problems of paying for a replacement for a wife's services arises if she is ill or injured as well. But Legal and General, like many of its competitors, refuses to touch this business.

The standard excuse for not giving cover to non-earning wives is the difficulty, they claim, of assessing whether a claimant is really disabled or ill enough to be incapable of performing their housewifely duties.



So who will sell permanent health insurance to non-working wives? At present only Commercial Union, Langham Life, Norwich Union, the Permanent Phoenix and Yorksbire General offer these policies. Most will cover for a maximum of £40 a week for the non-earning housewife with Commercial Union going to £60 a week — still hardly within shouting distance of £204 figure trumpeted by L and G.

Rates vary according to the insured, the age of the insured and the deferment period — that is the number of weeks of illness or incapacity the policyholder agrees to waive before claiming.

A 28-year-old woman insuring for £40 a week with a deferment period of 13 weeks would pay annual premiums of £37.20 at Norwich Union, £41.16 at Phoenix and £54 at Commercial Union. Stretching the deferment period to

26 weeks the annual premiums drop to £27.60, £36.12, £42.27 respectively. A 40-year-old woman insuring for £40 a week with a deferment period of 13 weeks would pay annual premiums of £55.20 at Norwich Union, £59.96 at Phoenix and £78.10 at Commercial Union with 26 weeks deferment the figures would be £41.60, £51.56 and £61.96 respectively.

But virtually all the insurance companies load the premiums paid by women whether they are housewives or income earners. In some cases they may be expected to cough up 50 per cent more than a man. Moreover, with the exception of Langham Life they all exclude pregnancy or pregnancy related problems or qualify the benefit in some way. Commercial Union for instance has a straight exclusion.

Norwich Union and several of the others add a three months extra waiting time

onto the deferment period if the illness is pregnancy related.

Whether or not these extra loadings and exclusions are justified is now the subject of heated discussion in insurance circles. As we wrote on October 31, the Equal Opportunities Commission is backing the case of Mrs June Almeida against Legal and General, the housewives friend. She found her company group permanent health scheme excluded "all members peculiar to the female sex".

The hearing has been delayed several times at the behest of L and G which, it appears, is having some difficulty in putting up any acceptable actuarial evidence in support of this discrimination.

Margaret Drummond

Christmas bonus for pensioners

This week most of the 11 million or so pensioners who qualify should have received their £10 Christmas bonus from the Government.

Now that the bonus has become a regular feature, by law, the Department of Health and Social Security has streamlined the way in which it is paid. For most pensioners, the bonus is included in their pension or benefit books and paid automatically in the week in which it falls due. Some pensioners are still paid by post, however, but even so the majority in this situation should also have received the extra cash.

Because the bonus is now a legal entitlement, the groups of people who get it are laid down in law and do not change from year to year. As in previous years, the bulk of those qualifying are the nine million retirement pensioners and those living on supplementary pensions.

In addition, war widows, industrial widows and orphans, widows pensioners also qualify. So too do those receiving invalidity pensions, non-contributory pension, attendance allowance, constant attendance allowance, invalid care allowance and a war pension or industrial injury unemployment supplement.

War disablement pensioners who have passed pension age and retired, but who for some reason are not getting one of the qualifying benefits, also are entitled to the bonus.

Anyone who feels that he or she should have received a bonus and who has not done so by the end of the month should get in touch with their nearest DHSS office.

Ian McDonald

Interest rates

Banks drag their feet

Home buyers with a loan from one of the high street banks have been given a clear indication of what to expect in future.

Bank base rates have now come down a full 1.5 per cent since October 8 when the banks last fixed their new "stabilised" mortgage rates. There is still no firm commitment to a cut for bank home buyers.

It cannot have escaped borrowers' attention that the mortgage rate was "stabilised" at the most advantageous moment for the banks — when rates had peaked.

The notion that borrowers will recoup their losses because the banks will be equally slow adjusting rates on the way up is almost certainly wishful thinking. The excuse offered by the banks for not cutting mortgage rates is that they did not push them up far enough last time round.

This may well be true but the uneasy feeling remains that they are not going to be out of pocket on their leading to home buyers and if they do not make their profit one way they will recoup it another. Until the banks cut their home loan rates the building societies will not move.

However, bank customers with an overdraft will benefit straight away from the 0.5 per cent cut in base rates; overdraft rates came down from around 18 to 20 per cent to 17.5 per cent or more. Personal loan rates are unchanged.

For investors — particularly children and pensioners who pay little or no tax — National Savings Bank investment account at 15 per cent now offers a worthwhile differential over bank seven-day deposit rates and there is a real incentive to make the switch, though money funds like Simco and Tyndall

paying just under 15 per cent offer a more flexible alternative to the NSB investment account.

A money fund offers withdrawal on seven days' notice and investments earn interest up to the time of withdrawal. NSB has an unnecessarily complicated system whereby interest is paid on whole p.p.s. invested for whole p.p.s. months and it is almost impossible to have the advertised 15 per cent basic rate taxpayer's who want easy access to their money will undoubtedly do best with a building society extra interest account. Almost all the societies now run them, though the terms vary (usually the notice period) and some impose interest rate penalties even if you give the required notice of withdrawal. These are the accounts to avoid.

Most of the big, first division societies pay a full 1 per cent over the BSA recommended rate on extra interest accounts and there are smaller societies offering anything up to 11.75 per cent on six-months' notice accounts — Guardian, Holmesdale, Benefit and Lambeth to mention these.

If you do not want your money tied up for long periods, the Bolton (London based) Chatham Reliance and Peckham Mutual all offer 11 per cent net of basic rate tax on money on one month's notice of withdrawal.

Returns at Varying Rates of Tax

	Non-taxpayer	30%	50%
Bank 7-day deposits:			
(Lloyds, NatWest, Barclays)	12.5	8.75	5.0
(Midland)	12.25	8.5	4.9
Building Societies:			
*Extra interest accounts	10.75	10.75	8.6
NSB investment account	15.0	10.5	6.0
Local authority yearling bonds	14.625	10.2	5.8
Money Funds	14.9	10.4	5.9

*Notice periods will vary between societies.

Taxation

Divorce — a Revenue problem

Frustration over the Government's avoidance of implementing any reform of the tax system is beginning to reach boiling point. Even the Law Society, an organisation not exactly renowned for hasty pronouncements, has been moved to make a special plea for urgent amendments to the tax system to redress some of the glaring inequities.

An accelerating divorce rate and a much higher incidence of working wives are just two of the social changes which have not been reflected in our system of taxation.

"Under current tax laws, a separated spouse and parent is placed in a far more advantageous tax position than a married spouse, and this appears to be contrary to public policy," says the Law

Society in its memorandum to the Inland Revenue.

The present income tax rules treat a married woman's income as though it were part of her husband's income. Not surprisingly in these days of sex equality, this has been regarded as a particularly glaring anomaly.

The Government published a Green Paper on the taxation of husband and wife in December 1980, setting out various optional methods of doing away with inequities. It then virtually brushed the whole matter under the carpet by announcing that there was no chance of any implementation until the end of the decade at the earliest.

Most of the professional organisations which have submitted representations to the Revenue on the Green Paper have come down heavily

in favour of total separation for tax purposes of the affairs of husband and wife.

The Equal Opportunities Commission is pressing hard for the most radical solution — the abolition of the married man's allowance and the surplus to be used to increase child benefits, and other organisations and individuals have supported this line.

And this option would also solve the anomalies complained of by the Law Society in its recent memorandum to the Revenue. It points out that under the present rules, the break-up of a marriage leads to a radically different tax treatment compared with married couples who stay together.

Draw Johnston

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More Flexible Share Account

9³/₄% worth **13.93%**

The all purpose savings account that gives you day-to-day control of your money. Pay in what you like when you like.

Withdrawals now much easier — up to £250 in cash, at any branch; larger cash withdrawals by arrangement or any amount by cheque from your own branch.

Higher Interest Bonus Account

10³/₄% up to **15.36%**

Our extra interest account that gives you easy access to your money when you need it.

Add to your savings at any time — your money earns 3% extra interest above the Share Account rate if your balance is between £2,500 (the minimum) and £9,999. The interest increases automatically to 1% extra on the whole amount for balances of £10,000 and over. Your interest can be paid to you half-yearly or added to your account to earn interest itself.

You can withdraw any amount any time by giving us 28 days' notice. You only lose interest for 28 days on the amount you withdraw.

Guaranteed Extra Interest Capital Bond

11³/₄% worth **16.79%**

The 5-year investment for £500 and over that guarantees you 2% extra interest above our variable Share Account rate.

And you can withdraw all or part of your money at any time by giving us 90 days' notice. You only lose interest on the amount you withdraw during the notice period. Your money is of course available at the end of the 5 years without loss of interest.

Interest can be paid to you as regular income, monthly or half-yearly. Or you can leave your interest invested in your Bond where it will itself earn yet more interest.

* basic rate income tax paid † gross to income tax payers



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Nationwide
Building Society

Loans for home buyers cut

Abbey National Building Society is cutting its rates to first time borrowers and reducing the differentials charged to those who borrow more than average.

First time buyers will be able to borrow up to £15,000 at 14.5 per cent — 0.5 per cent below the current basic rate — and the reduction will last for the first year of the loan. After that date, the interest rate reverts to the normal basic rate of 15 per cent.

The thresholds for charging higher rates for larger borrowers have been raised also to £25,000 — below that figure borrowers will pay the usual 15 per cent. For loans between £25,000 and £30,000 the rate will be 15.5 per cent and above that figure loans will cost 16 per cent. The new rates will apply to existing borrowers from April 1, 1982.

Car tax dilemma

A disabled Danish woman who works in a hostel for the homeless in Oxford fears she will have to leave Britain after being ordered to pay £400 tax on her car, or have it impounded. Miss Margit Vejje, aged 30, a spina bifida sufferer, bought the car in Denmark.

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TG/12/81



When Mr. Bill Wittering layout dictated that the street remedy another deficiency

imaginative and unreliable. Mr Gwilym Roberts, MP for the constituency of Hereford, was described as being "on the borders of leafy Canorbury" though it is much closer to treeless Dalston Junction. In Cornwall I once visited a place where the agents' description failed to mention that the peculiar

The situation will change if Mr Gwilym Roberts, MP for Cannock, succeeds with his Trade Descriptions (Amendment) Bill, which would make it an offence for an estate agent to describe properties inaccurately.

The Bill, which is sponsored by Consumers' Association, also aims to



مكتبة امن النجف

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This table is published on Wednesday and Saturday — FT index change on week \$29.3 + 4.1 (0.8%)

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Bank of Ireland

announces that with effect

from close of business

on 3rd December 1981

its Base Rate for lending

is reduced from

15% to 14½%

per annum

Bank of Ireland



The Royal Bank of Scotland

BASE RATE

The Royal Bank of Scotland Limited announces that with effect from 4th December 1981 its Base Rate for lending is being decreased from 15 per cent per annum to 14½ per cent per annum.

Standard Chartered

announces that on and after 4th December, 1981 its Base Rate for lending is being decreased from 15% to 14½% p.a.

The interest rate payable on deposit accounts subject to seven days notice of withdrawal will be decreased from 13% to 12½% p.a. The interest rate payable on High Interest deposit accounts subject to twenty one days notice of withdrawal will be decreased from 14% to 13½% p.a.

Standard Chartered Bank Limited

Allied Irish Banks Limited

INTEREST RATE CHANGE

Allied Irish Banks Ltd. announce that with effect from close of business on 4th December 1981 the Base Rate for advances is reduced from 15% to 14½% p.a.

Allied Irish Banks Limited
64/66 Coleman Street
London EC2R 5AL

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited
27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212
The Over-the-Counter Market

1980-81	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Gross	Yld	P. E.	Fully
									Adjusted
116	100	AB1 Hldgs 10% CGLS	116	+1	10.0	8.6	—	—	—
76	29	Alparing Group	66	—	4.7	7.1	10.5	14.5	—
52	21	Armstrong & Rhodes	43	—	4.3	10.0	3.6	8.1	—
200	92	Bardon Bill	192	+1	9.7	3.1	9.3	11.4	—
104	88	Deborah Services	89	—	5.5	6.2	4.4	8.3	—
126	88	Frank Horsell	122	—	6.4	5.2	11.0	26.5	—
110	39	Frederick Parker	62	+1	1.7	2.7	27.0	—	—
102	46	George Blair	46	—	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	IPC	100	—	7.3	7.3	7.2	10.9	—
113	59	Jackson Group	97	—	7.0	7.2	3.1	6.9	—
130	103	James Burrough	112cd+2	—	7.7	7.8	8.2	10.3	—
334	244	Robert Jenkins	263cd	—	5.3	9.8	8.3	7.7	—
50	60	Scruttons	25cd-1	—	10.7	6.4	5.4	10.0	—
224	168	Torday & Carlisle	173	—	—	—	—	—	—
23	8	Twinkl 15% ULS	131	—	15.0	20.8	—	—	—
56	32	Unilock Holdings	32	—	3.0	8.4	5.7	9.7	—
103	78	Walter Alexander	78	—	4.0	8.2	5.1	9.1	—
263	181	W. S. Yates	214	—	13.1	6.1	4.1	8.2	—

Stock markets

US rate cut lifts equities

It took another 1 per cent reduction to 12 per cent in America's federal discount rate to put a bit of pep back into the market yesterday and to end the account on a firm note.

Brokers reported a sharp increase in buying activity among equities which earlier in the week discounted the 1 of one per cent cut in domestic interest rates and the details of the Chancellor's economic package.

Forecast with prospect of a long 21 week account leading up to the Christmas break, the market appeared in a cheerful mood last night with heavy interest in new-time buying.

The FT last after opening 55 up, closed at 529.3, a rise on the day 4.4 up at 529.3, a rise on the account of 9.1.

Prospects for the new account look bright as institutions are likely to be unwilling to sell in order to present the best possible picture for their year-end balances.

Glits were also stimulated by the renewed pressure to lower domestic interest rates, and the Government Broker was able to exhaust the remaining supplies of the special short rate Treasury 3 per cent 1985 at £731.

Elsewhere prices rose by as much as £1 in longer, having opened the day £1 higher, while

In shorts the rises were restricted to between £1 and £1.1.

Blue chips were able to score some simple gains including John Brown, 3p higher at 61p. Following recent weakness over forecast losses of 54p at the machine tool division, Dunlop was a strong feature, jumping 8p to 183p supported by the latest whisky export figures which are said to be the best for several years. Elsewhere, 10p rose to 134p, Broomfield 10p to 215p, GKN 4p to 420p, Unilever 10p to 608p, Fisons 5p to 143p, Courtauld 4p to 77p, Dunlop 3p to 70p, GKN 4p to 167p and Hawker Siddeley 6p to 120p.

On the bid front, Bercel 21p to 151p, following the increased offer of 150p a share from Hanson Trust, down 4p at 284p. Brokers' House, Govett, were able to buy 3.39m shares in Bercel representing 5.21 per cent of the total, 150p on behalf of Hanson which now holds around 21 per cent.

Thomas Tilling, which has made a one-for-one share offer worth 120p a share for Bercel, rose 7p to 143p on the news.

Crosby House, suspended in October, returned to the market following its acquisition of Jazerite 23p higher at 153p. Brabner Millar, also back from suspension, was 2p up at 26p following the outcome of Bank & Portland's bid for 15 per cent of the company which took its total stake up to just under 30 per cent.

Friday, Hardware was suspended at 20p after the group was in discussions that might lead to an offer. Meanwhile, Hayters made a bid to start to dealings on the USM closed at 163p, a premium of 15p over the offer price. Nimslo, which made a disastrous debut on the USM, rallied further to close 5p up at 155p.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Cassings (I)	2,033(3.07)	0.19(0.21)	1.38(1.52)	0.4(0.4)	15/1	(2.42)
Bethaven Brewery (I)	3,721(3.77)	0.19(0.22)	0.91(1.34)	1(1)	30/1	(—)
Fred Cooper (F)	14,416(5.5)	0.33(0.31)	7.38(7.73)	17(15)	—	1.7(1.5)
Evered (I)	4,238(5.65)	0.2(0.24)	3.5(4.3)	—	—	(—)
Highgate & Job (I)	1,382(5.55)	0.12(0.09)	—	—	—	(—)
Newman Ind (I)	1,371(40.39)	1.3(0.2)	—	—	—	(—)
Sumrie Clothes (I)	1,251(1.7)	0.13(0.17)	—	—	—	(—)
UKO Int (I)	24.3(26.3)	0.048(1.1)	—	—	—	(—)
Wagon Indust (I)	24.5(21.3)	0.88(1.33)	2.08(5.77)	2(2)	22/3	(5.0)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis, ie excluding gross dividend by 1.423. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. *Loss; g=Adjusted for scrip issue.

Wall Street

New York, Dec 4.—Stocks finished strongly higher in reaction to the cut in the Federal Reserve's discount rate to 12 per cent. But the greater part of the rise was in early trading.

Dec 4	Dec 3	Dec 2	Dec 1	Nov 30	Nov 29	Nov 28	Nov 27	Nov 26	Nov 25	Nov 24	Nov 23	Nov 22	Nov 21	Nov 20	Nov 19	Nov 18	Nov 17	Nov 16	Nov 15	Nov 14	Nov 13	Nov 12	Nov 11	Nov 10	Nov 9	Nov 8	Nov 7	Nov 6	Nov 5	Nov 4	Nov 3	Nov 2	Nov 1	Oct 31	Oct 30	Oct 29	Oct 28	Oct 27	Oct 26	Oct 25	Oct 24	Oct 23	Oct 22	Oct 21	Oct 20	Oct 19	Oct 18	Oct 17	Oct 16	Oct 15	Oct 14	Oct 13	Oct 12	Oct 11	Oct 10	Oct 9	Oct 8	Oct 7	Oct 6	Oct 5	Oct 4	Oct 3	Oct 2	Oct 1	Sept 30	Sept 29	Sept 28	Sept 27	Sept 26	Sept 25	Sept 24	Sept 23	Sept 22	Sept 21	Sept 20	Sept 19	Sept 18	Sept 17	Sept 16	Sept 15	Sept 14	Sept 13	Sept 12	Sept 11	Sept 10	Sept 9	Sept 8	Sept 7	Sept 6	Sept 5	Sept 4	Sept 3	Sept 2	Sept 1	Aug 31	Aug 30	Aug 29	Aug 28	Aug 27	Aug 26	Aug 25	Aug 24	Aug 23	Aug 22	Aug 21	Aug 20	Aug 19	Aug 18	Aug 17	Aug 16	Aug 15	Aug 14	Aug 13	Aug 12	Aug 11	Aug 10	Aug 9	Aug 8	Aug 7	Aug 6	Aug 5	Aug 4	Aug 3	Aug 2	Aug 1	July 31	July 30	July 29	July 28	July 27	July 26	July 25	July 24	July 23	July 22	July 21	July 20	July 19	July 18	July 17	July 16	July 15	July 14	July 13	July 12	July 11	July 10	July 9	July 8	July 7	July 6	July 5	July 4	July 3	July 2	July 1	June 30	June 29	June 28	June 27	June 26	June 25	June 24	June 23	June 22	June 21	June 20	June 19	June 18	June 17	June 16	June 15	June 14	June 13	June 12	June 11	June 10	June 9	June 8	June 7	June 6	June 5	June 4	June 3	June 2	June 1	May 31	May 30	May 29	May 28	May 27	May 26	May 25	May 24	May 23	May 22	May 21	May 20	May 19	May 18	May 17	May 16	May 15	May 14	May 13	May 12	May 11	May 10	May 9	May 8	May 7	May 6	May 5	May 4	May 3	May 2	May 1	April 30	April 29	April 28	April 27	April 26	April 25	April 24	April 23	April 22	April 21	April 20	April 19	April 18	April 17	April 16	April 15	April 14	April 13	April 12	April 11	April 10	April 9	April 8	April 7	April 6	April 5	April 4	April 3	April 2	April 1	March 31	March 30	March 29	March 28	March 27	March 26	March 25	March 24	March 23	March 22	March 21	March 20	March 19	March 18	March 17	March 16	March 15	March 14	March 13	March 12	March 11	March 10	March 9	March 8	March 7	March 6	March 5	March 4	March 3	March 2	March 1	Feb 28	Feb 27	Feb 26	Feb 25	Feb 24	Feb 23	Feb 22	Feb 21	Feb 20	Feb 19	Feb 18	Feb 17	Feb 16	Feb 15	Feb 14	Feb 13	Feb 12	Feb 11	Feb 10	Feb 9	Feb 8	Feb 7	Feb 6	Feb 5	Feb 4	Feb 3	Feb 2	Feb 1	Jan 31	Jan 30	Jan 29	Jan 28	Jan 27	Jan 26	Jan 25	Jan 24	Jan 23	Jan 22	Jan 21	Jan 20	Jan 19	Jan 18	Jan 17	Jan 16	Jan 15	Jan 14	Jan 13	Jan 12	Jan 11	Jan 10	Jan 9	Jan 8	Jan 7	Jan 6	Jan 5	Jan 4	Jan 3	Jan 2	Jan 1	Dec 31	Dec 30	Dec 29	Dec 28	Dec 27	Dec 26	Dec 25	Dec 24	Dec 23	Dec 22	Dec 21	Dec 20	Dec 19	Dec 18	Dec 17	Dec 16	Dec 15	Dec 14	Dec 13	Dec 12	Dec 11	Dec 10	Dec 9	Dec 8	Dec 7	Dec 6	Dec 5	Dec 4	Dec 3	Dec 2	Dec 1	Nov 30	Nov 29	Nov 28	Nov 27	Nov 26	Nov 25	Nov 24	Nov 23	Nov 22	Nov 21	Nov 20	Nov 19	Nov 18	Nov 17	Nov 16	Nov 15	Nov 14	Nov 13	Nov 12	Nov 11	Nov 10	Nov 9	Nov 8	Nov 7	Nov 6	Nov 5	Nov 4	Nov 3	Nov 2	Nov 1	Oct 31	Oct 30	Oct 29	Oct 28	Oct 27	Oct 26	Oct 25	Oct 24	Oct 23	Oct 22	Oct 21	Oct 20	Oct 19	Oct 18	Oct 17	Oct 16	Oct 15	Oct 14	Oct 13	Oct 12	Oct 11	Oct 10	Oct 9	Oct 8	Oct 7	Oct 6	Oct 5	Oct 4	Oct 3	Oct 2	Oct 1	Sept 30	Sept 29	Sept 28	Sept 27	Sept 26	Sept 25	Sept 24	Sept 23	Sept 22	Sept 21	Sept 20	Sept 19	Sept 18	Sept 17	Sept 16	Sept 15	Sept 14	Sept 13	Sept 12	Sept 11	Sept 10	Sept 9	Sept 8	Sept 7	Sept 6	Sept 5	Sept 4	Sept 3	Sept 2	Sept 1	Aug 31	Aug 30	Aug 29	Aug 28	Aug 27	Aug 26	Aug 25	Aug 24	Aug 23	Aug 22	Aug 21	Aug 20	Aug 19	Aug 18	Aug 17	Aug 16	Aug 15	Aug 14	Aug 13	Aug 12	Aug 11	Aug 10	Aug 9	Aug 8	Aug 7	Aug 6	Aug 5	Aug 4	Aug 3	Aug 2	Aug 1	July 31	July 30	July 29	July 28	July 27	July 26	July 25	July 24	July 23	July 22	July 21	July 20	July 19	July 18	July 17	July 16	July 15	July 14	July 13	July 12	July 11	July 10	July 9	July 8	July 7	July 6	July 5	July 4	July 3	July 2	July 1	June 30	June 29	June 28	June 27	June 26	June 25	June 24	June 23	June 22	June 21	June 20	June 19	June 18	June 17	June 16	June 15	June 14	June 13	June 12	June 11	June 10	June 9	June 8	June 7	June 6	June 5	June 4	June 3	June 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23	Jan 22	Jan 21	Jan 20	Jan 19	Jan 18	Jan 17	Jan 16	Jan 15	Jan 14	Jan 13	Jan 12	Jan 11	Jan 10	Jan 9	Jan 8	Jan 7	Jan 6	Jan 5	Jan 4	Jan 3	Jan 2	Jan 1	Dec 31	Dec 30	Dec 29	Dec 28	Dec 27	Dec 26	Dec 25	Dec 24	Dec 23	Dec 22	Dec 21	Dec 20	Dec 19	Dec 18	Dec 17	Dec 16	Dec 15	Dec 14	Dec 13	Dec 12	Dec 11	Dec 10	Dec 9	Dec 8	Dec 7	Dec 6	Dec 5	Dec 4	Dec 3	Dec 2	Dec 1	Nov 30	Nov 29	Nov 28	Nov 27	Nov 26	Nov 25	Nov 24	Nov 23	Nov 22	Nov 21	Nov 20	Nov 19	Nov 18	Nov 17	Nov 16	Nov 15	Nov 14	Nov 13	Nov 12	Nov 11	Nov 10	Nov 9	Nov 8	Nov 7	Nov 6	Nov 5	Nov 4	Nov 3	Nov 2	Nov 1	Oct 31	Oct 30	Oct 29	Oct 28	Oct 27	Oct 26	Oct 25	Oct 24	Oct 23	Oct 22	Oct 21	Oct 20	Oct 19	Oct 18	Oct 17	Oct 16	Oct 15	Oct 14	Oct 13	Oct 12	Oct 11	Oct 10	Oct 9	Oct 8	Oct 7	Oct 6	Oct 5	Oct 4	Oct 3	Oct 2	Oct 1	Sept 30	Sept 29	Sept 28	Sept 27	Sept 26	Sept 25	Sept 24	Sept 23	Sept 22	Sept 21	Sept 20	Sept 19	Sept 18	Sept 17	Sept 16	Sept 15	Sept 14	Sept 13	Sept 12	Sept 11	Sept 10	Sept 9	Sept 8	Sept 7	Sept 6	Sept 5	Sept 4	Sept 3	Sept 2	Sept 1	Aug 31	Aug 30	Aug 29	Aug 28	Aug 27	Aug 26	Aug 25	Aug 24	Aug 23	Aug 22	Aug 21	Aug 20	Aug 19	Aug 18	Aug 17	Aug 16	Aug 15	Aug 14	Aug 13	Aug 12	Aug 11	Aug 10	Aug 9	Aug 8	Aug 7	Aug 6	Aug 5	Aug 4	Aug 3	Aug 2	Aug 1	July 31	July 30	July 29	July 28	July 27	July 26	July 25	July 24	July 23	July 22	July 21	July 20	July 19	July 18	July 17	July 16	July 15	July 14	July 13	July 12	July 11	July 10	July 9	July 8	July 7	July 6	July 5	July 4	July 3	July 2	July 1	June 30	June 29	June 28	June 27	June 26	June 25	June 24	June 23	June 22	June 21	June 20	June 19	June 18	June 17	June 16	June 15	June 14	June 13	June 12	June 11	June 10	June 9	June 8	June 7	June 6	June 5	June 4	June 3	June 2	June 1	May 31	May 30	May 29	May 28	May 27	May 26	May 25	May 24	May 23	May 22	May 21	May 20	May 19	May 18	May 17	May 16	May 15	May 14	May 13	May 12	May 11	May 10	May 9	May 8	May 7	May 6	May 5	May 4	May 3	May 2	May 1	April 30	April 29	April 28	April 27	April 26	April 25	April 24	April 23	April 22	April 21	April 20	April 19	April 18	April 17	April 16	April 15	April 14	April 13	April 12	April 11	April 10	April 9	April 8	April 7	April 6	April 5	April 4	April 3	April 2	April 1	March 31	March 30	March 29	March 28	March 27	March 26	March 25	March 24	March 23	March 22	March 21	March 20	March 19	March 18	March 17	March 16	March 15	March 14	March 13	March 12	March 11	March 10	March 9	March 8	March 7	March 6	March 5	March 4	March 3	March 2	March 1	Feb 28	Feb 27	Feb 26	Feb 25	Feb 24	Feb 23	Feb 22	Feb 21	Feb 20	Feb 19	Feb 18	Feb 17	Feb 16	Feb 15	Feb 14	Feb 13	Feb 12	Feb 11	Feb 10	Feb 9	Feb 8	Feb 7	Feb 6	Feb 5	Feb 4	Feb 3	Feb 2	Feb 1	Jan 31	Jan 30	Jan 29	Jan 28	Jan 27	Jan 26	Jan 25	Jan 24	Jan 23	Jan 22	Jan 21	Jan 20	Jan 19	Jan 18	Jan 17	Jan 16	Jan 15	Jan 14	Jan 13	Jan 12	Jan 11	Jan 10	Jan 9	Jan 8	Jan 7	Jan 6	Jan 5	Jan 4	Jan 3	Jan 2	Jan 1	Dec 31	Dec 30	Dec 29	Dec 28	Dec 27	Dec 26	Dec 25	Dec 24	Dec 23	Dec 22	Dec 21	Dec 20	Dec 19	Dec 18	Dec 17	Dec 16	Dec 15	Dec 14	Dec 13	Dec 12	Dec 11	Dec 10	Dec 9	Dec 8	Dec 7	Dec 6	Dec 5	Dec 4	Dec 3	Dec 2	Dec 1	Nov 30	Nov 29	Nov 28	Nov 27	Nov 26	Nov 25	Nov 24	Nov 23	Nov 22	Nov 21	Nov 20	Nov 19	Nov 18	Nov 17	Nov 16	Nov 15	Nov 14	Nov 13	Nov 12	Nov 11	Nov 10	Nov 9	Nov 8	Nov 7	Nov 6	Nov 5	Nov 4	Nov 3	Nov 2	Nov 1	Oct 31	Oct 30	Oct 29	Oct 28	Oct 27	Oct 26	Oct 25	Oct 24	Oct 23	Oct 22	Oct 21	Oct 20	Oct 19	Oct 18	Oct 17	Oct 16	Oct 15	Oct 14	Oct 13	Oct 12	Oct 11	Oct 10	Oct 9	Oct 8	Oct 7	Oct 6	Oct 5	Oct 4	Oct 3	Oct 2	Oct 1	Sept 30	Sept 29	Sept 28	Sept 27	Sept 26	Sept 25	Sept 24	Sept 23	Sept 22	Sept 21	Sept 20	Sept 19	Sept 18	Sept 17	Sept 16	Sept 15	Sept 14	Sept 13	Sept 12	Sept 11	Sept 10	Sept 9	Sept 8	Sept 7	Sept 6	Sept 5	Sept 4	Sept 3	Sept 2	Sept 1	Aug 31	Aug 30	Aug 29	Aug 28	Aug 27	Aug 26	Aug 25	Aug 24	Aug 23	Aug 22	Aug 21	Aug 20	Aug 19	Aug 18	Aug 17	Aug 16	Aug 15	Aug 14	Aug 13	Aug 12	Aug 11	Aug 10	Aug 9	Aug 8	Aug 7	Aug 6	Aug 5	Aug 4	Aug 3	Aug 2	Aug 1	July 31	July 30	July 29	July 28	July 27	July 26	July 25	July 24	July 23	July 22	July 21	July 20	July 19	July 18	July 17	July 16	July 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Christopher Thomas

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